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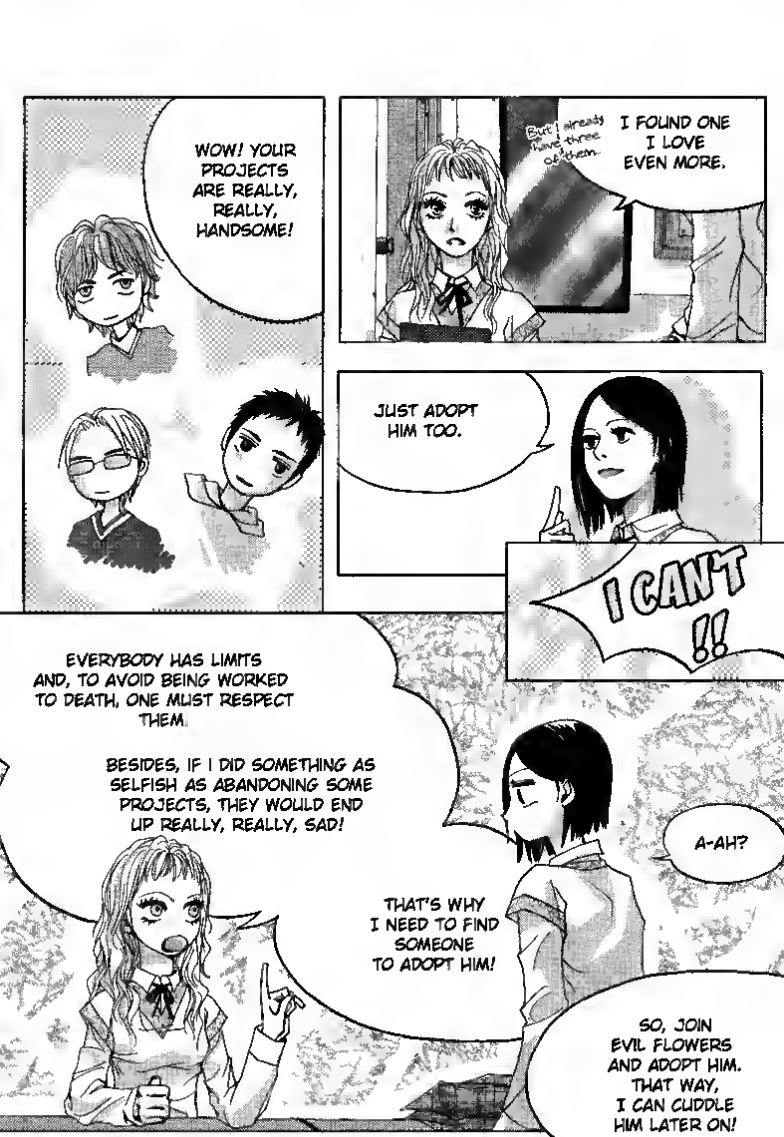
WOW! YOUR PROJECTS ARE REALLY, REALLY, HANDSOME!
But I already have three of them.
I FOUND ONE I LOVE EVEN MORE.
JUST ADOPT HIM TOO.
I CAN'T !!
EVERYBODY HAS LIMITS AND, TO AVOID BEING WORKED TO DEATH, ONE MUST RESPECT THEM.
BESIDES, IF I DID SOMETHING AS SELFISH AS ABANDONING SOME PROJECTS, THEY WOULD END UP REALLY, REALLY, SAD!
A-AH?
THAT'S WHY I NEED TO FIND SOMEONE TO ADOPT HIM!
SO, JOIN EVIL FLOWERS AND ADOPT HIM. THAT WAY, I CAN CUDDLE HIM LATER ON!

So, join Evil Flowers and make us happy :)

Evil Flowers
is searching for:
Japanese/Korean/Chinese Translators
Experienced Editors
- Experienced QCers
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# The Queen's Knight

Kim Kang Won

9

LAST TIME IN...

# THE QUEEN'S KNIGHT

Yuna is a normal girl who visits her mother in Germany and befalls a terrible disaster. After she returns home from her accident she begins to have strange dreams. In her dream, a knight who calls himself "Rieno" tells Yuna that she is his Queen and that he is her knight. Yuna's brothers send her back to Germany where she meets the knight from her dreams- who then promptly kidnaps her, taking her to Phantasma.

Phantasma is a world covered entirely with snow and Yuna is forced to live with Rieno. But just when Yuna was getting used to being with him, spring arrives, and Yuna is taken to Elysian to be properly installed as the Queen of Phantasma. Once there Yuna befriends the Queen's Guardian Knights, Ehren, Leon and Schiller, the hateful Chancellor Kent, as well as the Queens rival, Princess Libera.

Yuna almost immediately begins to shake things up, as she not only repeals the taxes and declares slavery illegal but insists on creating new policies and institutions like schools and hospitals.

As she settles into her new gig as the queen, she discovers that the queen's main duty is to maintain springtime in Phantasma and that can only be done if she's happily in love. As all her predecessors had fallen for Rieno, who would never reciprocate the sentiment, spring had all eventually come to an end.. till now. Speculators, and even Yuna herself, are convinced that Yuna's object of amore is Ehren and that this is fantastic news for Phantasma as spring can be eternal again.

Later, Yuna learns of the doomed romance between Rieno and Elsa the Queen before her. At the same time, Ehren gets a brief history lesson of Phantasma and how Rieno, when he reaches age nineteen, will come to rule the land as lord of darkness. In order to prevent such travesty, Ehren is entrusted with a critical assignment. He must persuade Queen Yuna to drive the Mistletoe Wooden Dagger into Rieno's heart...

KANG WON KIM
THE QUEEN'S KNIGHT

THE REASON WHY WINTER CAME TO PHANTASMA...
...ISN'T BECAUSE REINO BROUGHT DESTRUCTION UPON QUEEN FREYJA?
IT WAS A RESULT OF THE FAIRIES' PLOT TO STOP REINO FROM TRANSFORMING...

DOES THIS MEAN THAT SPRING CAN'T CONTINUE... REGARDLESS OF HOW HAPPY YUNA IS?
SO AS LONG AS REINO EXISTS, ETERNAL SPRING IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SUSTAIN?
OUR ENEMY IS NOT REINO, WHO STOLE THE HEART OF THE QUEEN...
IT'S REINO, HEIR TO DARKNESS!!
WE'VE GOT TO FIGHT A MONSTER...WHO CAN'T EVEN BE KILLED...

EHREN HWERUSUTE--
OUR CONVERSATION ISN'T FINISHED YET...
YOU'RE THE HEIR OF HWERUSUTE HOUSE-- KNOWN FOR YOUR COLD, CALCULATING WAYS. I CAN'T BELIEVE A HWERUSUTE WAS SO INFURIATED THAT HE WALKED AWAY FROM ME.
YOU HAVE MORE TO SAY?

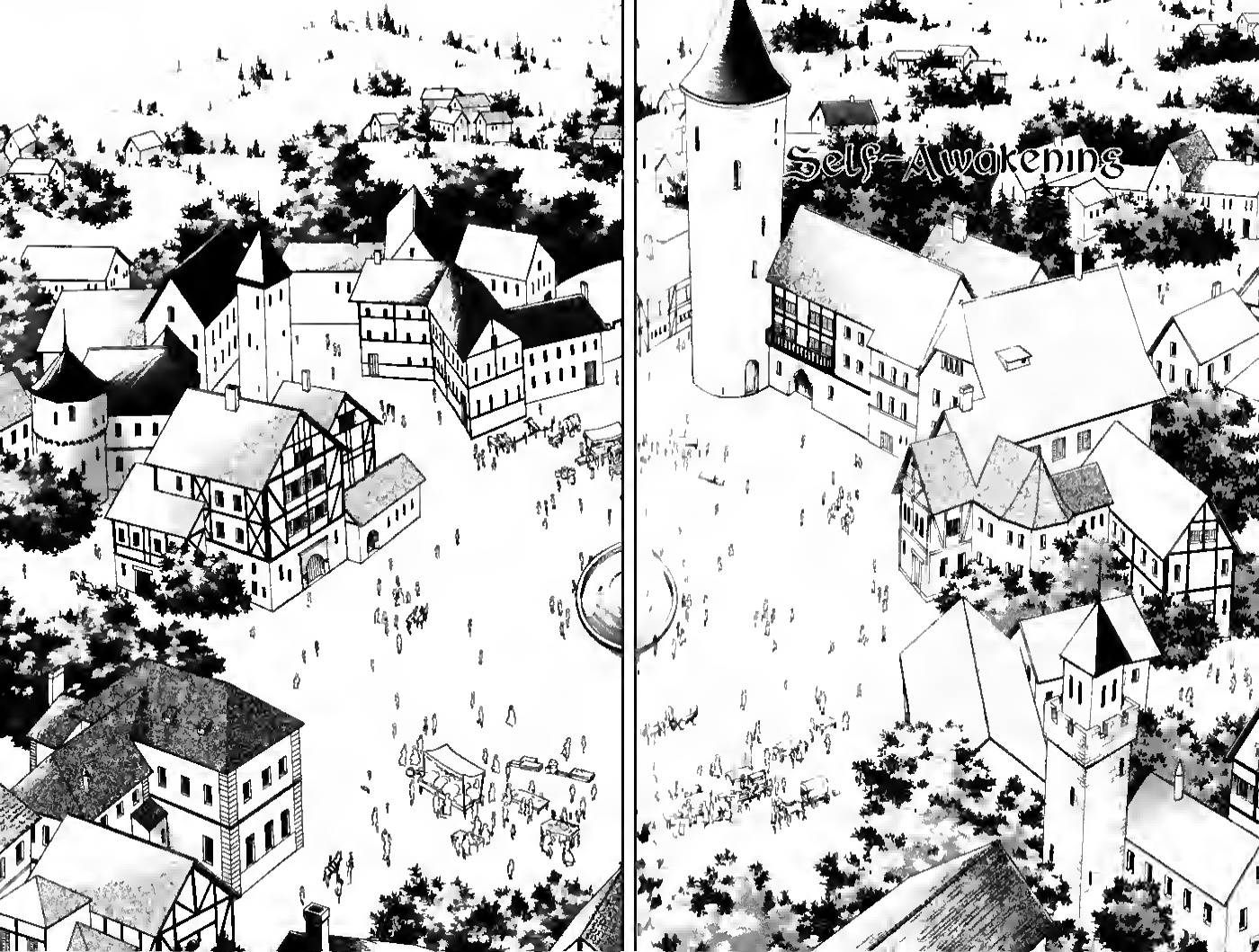
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SOUGHT MY COMPANY TO UNCOVER THE TRUTH.
I DID NOT WISH FOR YOU TO BE CAST IN SUCH A ROLE.
I THOUGHT IT BEST FOR MY GRANDSON SCHILLER TO PLAY THIS PART.
HOWEVER, AS IT'S POSSIBLE YOU ARE THE ONE WHO MADE THE QUEEN MATURE, THE ONE WITH WHOM THE QUEEN IS IN LOVE...
...I DECIDED TO REST THIS BURDEN ON YOUR SHOULDERS.
THE MAN THE QUEEN HAS CHOSEN--NOT REINO--MUST BEAR THIS FATE.
HERE--TAKE THIS.

...
IS THIS...?
I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD OF THE "MISTLETOE DAGGER."
AS QUEEN FREYJA DIED, CHANTING A CURSE...
...HER BLOOD COVERED THE MISTLETOE TREE...

THIS WOODEN DAGGER WAS MADE FROM THE MISTLETOE TREE STAINED WITH THE QUEEN'S BLOOD.
IS MY ROLE TO PLACE THIS DAGGER IN THE QUEEN'S HANDS...
...SO THAT SHE CAN PLANT IT INTO REINO'S HEART?
IT'S THE ONLY WEAPON WITH WHICH WE CAN KILL REINO...
HOWEVER! IT WILL ONLY SHOW ITS EFFECTS WHEN DRAWN BY THE QUEEN HERSELF...
REINO, HIMSELF, GAVE THAT DAGGER TO THE QUEEN DURING THE HUNT IN THE FOREST OF DARKNESS...

REINO...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE THAT REINO IS IGNORANT OF THIS DAGGER'S EFFECT.
SO, WHY WOULD HE...?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT FROM NOW ON, I WILL ENTRUST THE DAGGER TO YOU.
THAT'S WHAT WE'VE ALL DECIDED.
EVERYONE WILL BE WATCHING YOU.
YOU MUST NOW MAKE ALL DECISIONS ON YOUR OWN.

THIS IS THE PRECIOUS OPPORTUNITY THAT WE ALL--INCLUDING YOUR GRANDFATHER AND FATHER--HAVE ANTICIPATED.
REMEMBER, THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT.
IF MORE PRECIOUS TIME IS WASTED, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SEARCH FOR ANOTHER QUEEN.
FOR ETERNAL SPRING IN PHANTASMA...

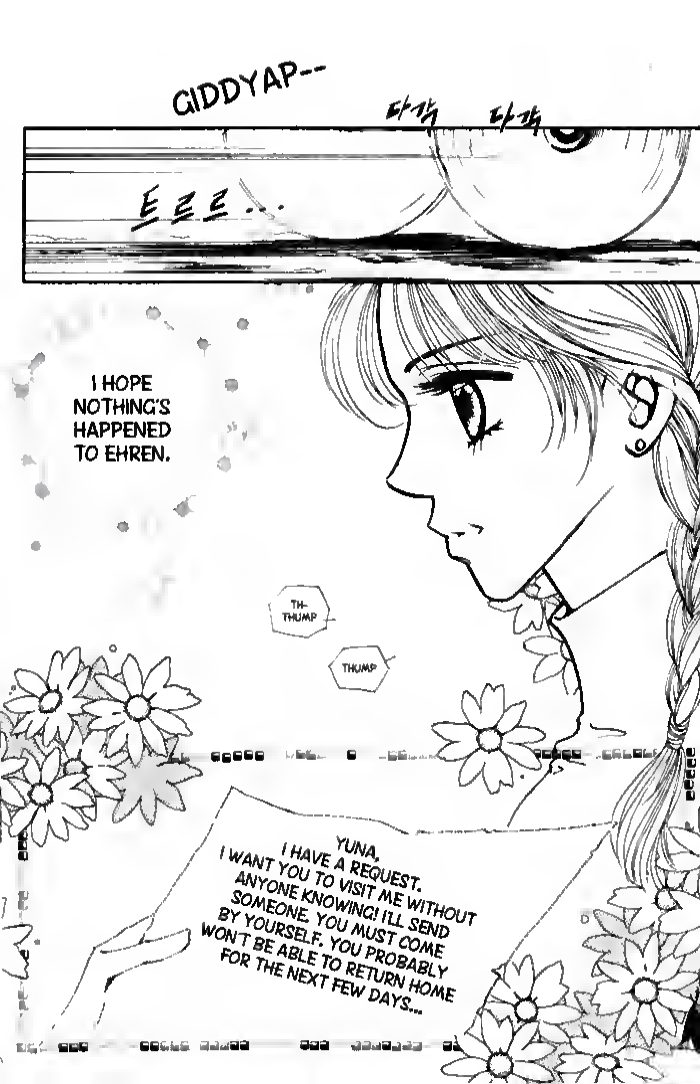

Self-Awakening

ALL RIGHT? BOTH OF YOU MUST HELP ME.
SCHILLER, PLEASE PERSUADE THE MOTHERS SO THEY CAN SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL.
MAYA SAID SHE'D HELP OUT WITH THE HOSPITAL.
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. NOW GO ON YOUR WAY AND ADVERTISE TO THE CITIZENS.
WE NEED TO GATHER THE STUDENTS BEFORE THE SCHOOL BUILDING IS COMPLETED.
LEON, PERSUADE THE CHILDREN. AND SCHILLER THE MOTHERS.

WHERE THE HECK IS EHREN? WHY HASN'T ANYONE SEEN HIM THESE LAST FEW DAYS?
WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE? EVERYDAY I GO TO PLAY WITH THE CHILDREN...
YOUR MAJESTY...
AOK! SOME STRANGER IS APPROACHING YUNA!
WHO ARE YOU?
AH...
WHO IS THAT? IS HE HARASSING YOU?
THEN, I'LL BE ON MY WAY...

OH, IT'S NOTHING. HE WAS JUST A PASSERBY...
ALL RIGHT...
MY GOODNESS...
I'M A MESSENGER SENT BY SIR EHREN. HE WANTED YOU TO READ THIS WHEN YOU WERE ALONE.

OVER HERE.
WHERE IS EHREN? NOTHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM, RIGHT?
...
PLEASE GET INTO THE CARRIAGE BEFORE ANYONE SEES YOU...
AH...


GIDDYAP--
다닥 다닥
트르르...
I HOPE NOTHING'S HAPPENED TO EHREN.
TH-THUMP
THUMP
YUNA,
I HAVE A REQUEST. I WANT YOU TO VISIT ME WITHOUT ANYONE KNOWING! I'LL SEND SOMEONE. YOU MUST COME BY YOURSELF. YOU PROBABLY WON'T BE ABLE TO RETURN HOME FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS...

IT'S DIFFICULT EDUCATING YOUR CHILDREN, ISN'T IT? NOW IS THE AGE OF SPECIALIZED EDUCATION.
HEY, YOU KIDS! DO YOU KNOW WHAT A SCHOOL IS? IT'S A REALLY COOL PLACE. SO YOU GOTTA COME, SEE?
I'LL BE TEACHING YOU HOW TO SWORDFIGHT. YOU KNOW WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN IF YOU DON'T COME, RIGHT?!
WITH HIM AS OUR TEACHER?
HE'S SCARY...
EX-EXCUSE ME, YOU'RE SIR SCHILLER, RIGHT?
SOMEONE ASKED ME TO DELIVER THIS TO YOU...
LEON!!

WE'RE IN BIG TROUBLE! YUNA'S DISAPPEARED!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I JUST RECEIVED A NOTE FROM YUNA.
NOT WORRY?! IF SHE'S WITH EHREN, IT'S EVEN MORE TROUBLING!
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY?
IT SAYS NOT TO SEARCH FOR HER FOR A FEW DAYS--THAT WE SHOULDN'T WORRY BECAUSE SHE'LL BE WITH EHREN...
BUT SHE ALSO SAID SHE WANTS THE BUSINESS WITH EHREN KEPT A SECRET FROM THE COURT...

THAT MAKES NO SENSE! WE NEED TO SEND OUT THE SOLDIERS AND CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS AT EVERY GATE--
I'M GONNA GO, TOO!
SHE'S GOING TO SOME UNKNOWN PLACE FOR A FEW DAYS WITH EHREN!
THAT STUPID BASTARD! IF HE EVEN LAYS A FINGER ON YUNA, I'LL KILL HIM!

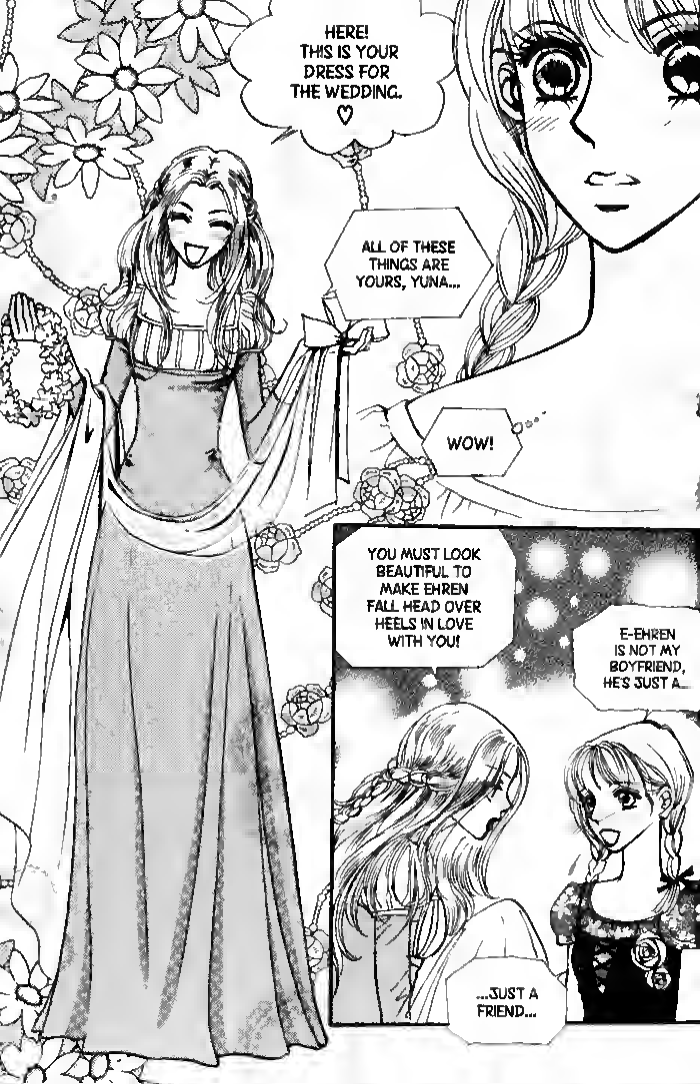
WE'RE HERE.
THIS VILLAGE...
AH...

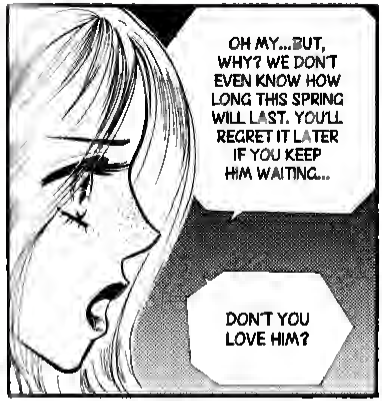
EHREN...
HUH...IS THIS EHREN? HIS PRESENCE IS...
SOMEHOW HE'S EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE THAN BEFORE...
YOU MUST BE TIRED FROM THE LONG CARRIAGE RIDE.
You look good in those clothes
WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU EVEN PREPARED THIS OUTFIT FOR ME...
COME OVER HERE.
HURRY.

WHAT'S THIS? A VILLAGE FESTIVAL?
하하하
NO--TOMORROW, THERE'S A WEDDING IN THE VILLAGE.
I'M THE BEST MAN.
WHAT? REALLY?

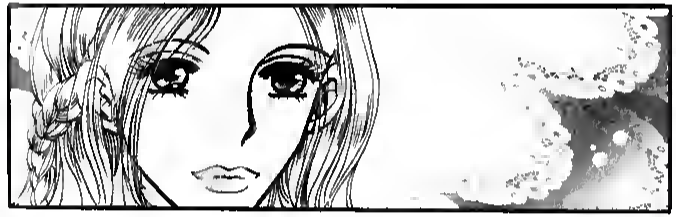
THEY'D ALSO LIKE YOU TO BE IN THE WEDDING AS ONE OF THE BRIDESMAIDS.
REALLY?
OH, IT'S GREAT TO MEET YOU, MISS YUNA!
OH MY! ♡ YOU'VE ARRIVED.
EMMA, MY GIRLFRIEND, YUNA...
EHREN SAVED MY FIANCÉ TITO'S LIFE. SO WE ASKED HIM TO BE THE BEST MAN AT OUR WEDDING.
I GOT ATTACKED BY A BOAR AND HE SAVED ME.

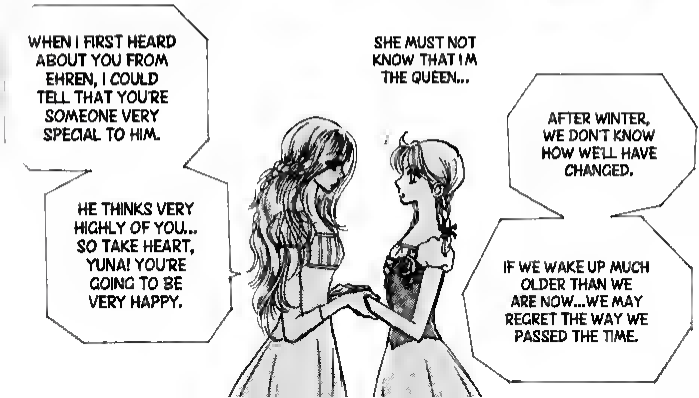
MISS YUNA, YOU'LL BE IN MY WEDDING TOO, WON'T YOU?
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, MISS YUNA. YOUR BOYFRIEND, EHREN, SAVED MY LIFE. I'D USED UP ALL MY ARROWS AND MY SWORD WAS IN PIECES... HE WAS JUST PASSING BY AND RESCUED ME.
I ALMOST BECAME A VIRGIN GHOST...
SURE, IF YOU'LL HAVE ME... EVEN THOUGH I HAVE NO EXPERIENCE...
WE WOMEN HAVE LOTS TO DISCUSS, SO EXCUSE US...
COME WITH ME, YUNA! HO HO HO...
CAN I CALL YOU THAT?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN EHREN LIKE THAT...


HERE! THIS IS YOUR DRESS FOR THE WEDDING. ♡
ALL OF THESE THINGS ARE YOURS, YUNA...
WOW!
YOU MUST LOOK BEAUTIFUL TO MAKE EHREN FALL HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE WITH YOU!
E-EHREN IS NOT MY BOYFRIEND, HE'S JUST A...
...JUST A FRIEND...

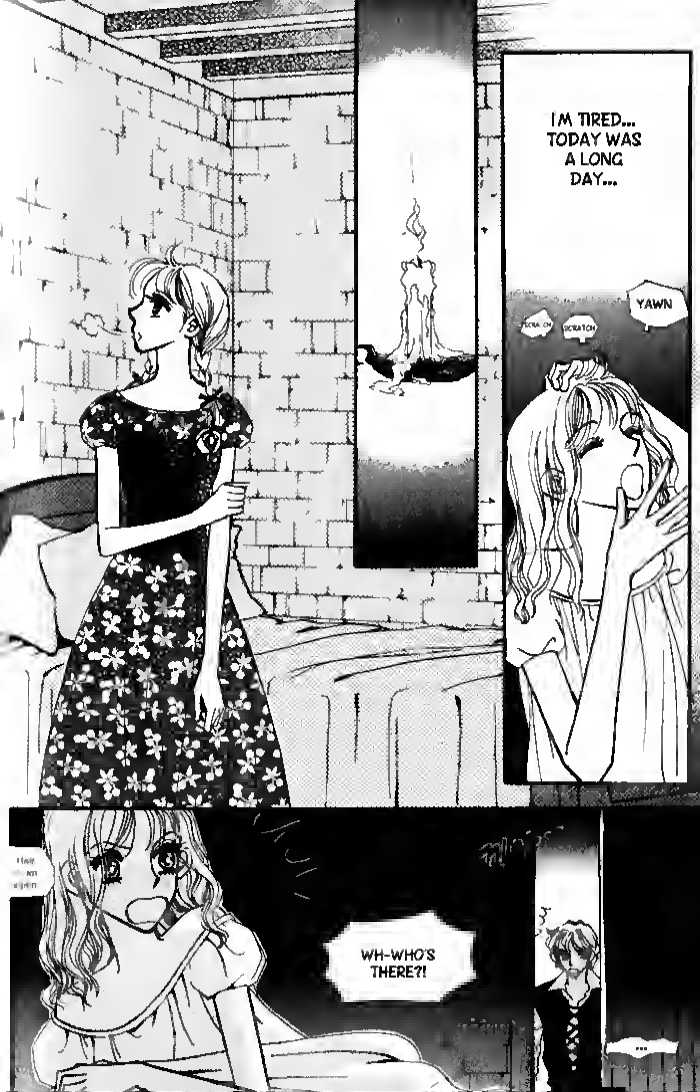

OH MY...BUT, WHY? WE DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW LONG THIS SPRING WILL LAST. YOU'LL REGRET IT LATER IF YOU KEEP HIM WAITING...
DON'T YOU LOVE HIM?

AH...
I...LIKE HIM... A LOT... BUT...




WHEN I FIRST HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM EHREN, I COULD TELL THAT YOU'RE SOMEONE VERY SPECIAL TO HIM.
HE THINKS VERY HIGHLY OF YOU... SO TAKE HEART, YUNA! YOU'RE GOING TO BE VERY HAPPY.
SHE MUST NOT KNOW THAT I'M THE QUEEN...
AFTER WINTER, WE DON'T KNOW HOW WE'LL HAVE CHANGED.
IF WE WAKE UP MUCH OLDER THAN WE ARE NOW...WE MAY REGRET THE WAY WE PASSED THE TIME.

YUNA...DON'T BE AFRAID OF LOVE.
HEY, WHAT WERE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT?
A SECRET...
WHAT? WHAT?
REST UP.
YUNA, THANKS FOR AGREEING TO HELP WITH THE WEDDING.
THE SPRING... WON'T LAST FOREVER.
IF YOU DON'T HURRY, YOU'LL REGRET IT...


I'M TIRED... TODAY WAS A LONG DAY...
YAWN
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
WH-WHO'S THERE?!

HEY, WAIT! IS THERE ANOTHER ROOM?
GIVE IT UP--SHE'S YOUR GIRLFRIEND, ANYWAY. THERE'RE TOO MANY GUESTS HERE, SO NO EXTRA ROOMS.
IF YOU DON'T USE THAT ROOM, SOME OTHER GUY MAY GO IN THERE...
Ugh. I'm tired
AHEM--
IT SEEMS LIKE... WE MUST SHARE...THIS ROOM...

WHAT?
DON'T WORRY... I'LL SLEEP ON THE GROUND...
BUT IT'S A STONE FLOOR...
IT'S ONLY GOING TO GET COLDER DURING THE NIGHT..
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE.
I'VE GONE CAMPING BEFORE...
COME HERE--

COME AND SLEEP WITH ME HERE ON THE BED.
IT'S ALL RIGHT...
IT MIGHTVE BEEN DIFFICULT WITH LEON OR SCHILLER, BUT WITH YOU EHREN—
I DON'T WORRY...
IS THAT A CRITICISM OR A COMPLIMENT?
GASP!
DO YOU HAVE BAD SLEEPING HABITS? THE BED LOOKS AWFULLY SMALL...

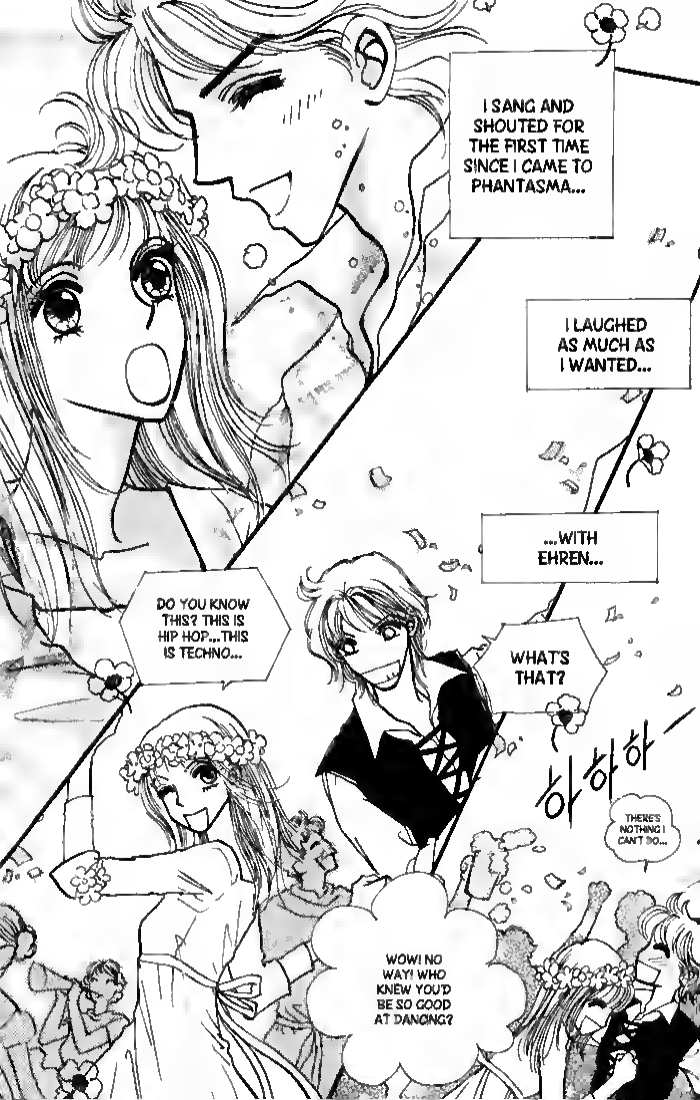
...I'LL DO EVERYTHING YOU ASK OF ME UNTIL WE RETURN TO THE CASTLE...
STILL, I CAN'T BELIEVE HE AGREED SO QUICKLY...
SINCE YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE, JUST AS I'D REQUESTED, WITHOUT A SINGLE QUESTION...
AH, THE BED IS WARMER... BECAUSE OF EHREN...
THE MATTER THAT HAD TO BE HANDLED AWAY FROM THE CASTLE...WAS BEING BEST MAN IN THESE COUNTRY FOLKS' WEDDING?
UH HUH.
EHREN, YOU SLEEPING? SORRY... I was talking to you.
Just 5 more minutes.
Just 10 more minutes.

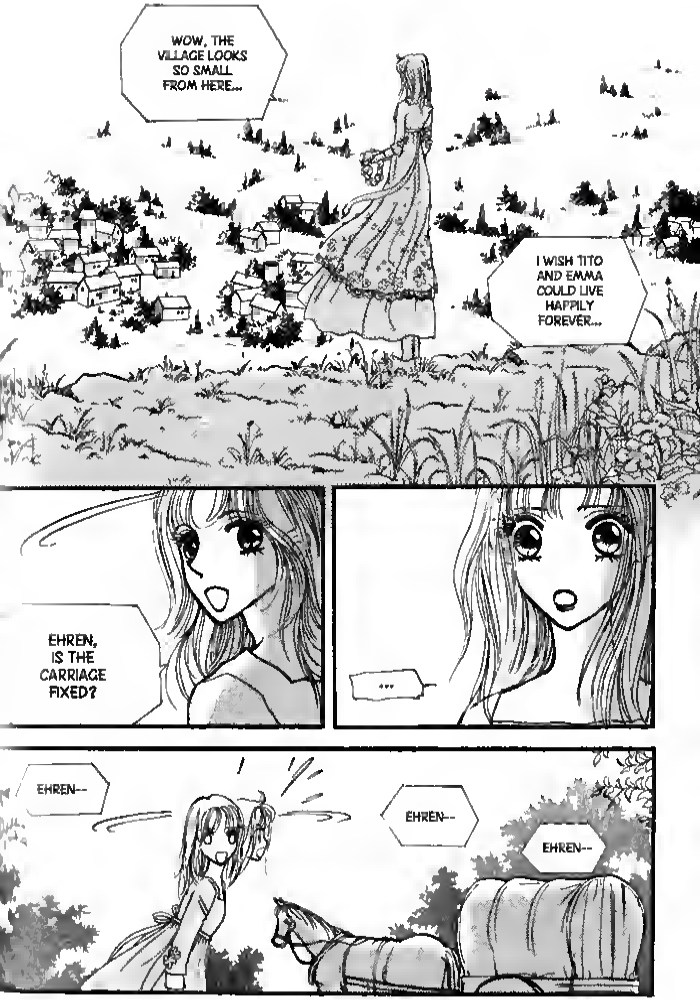
LET'S JUST REMAIN AS ORDINARY PEOPLE FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW-- UNTIL WE RETURN TO THE CASTLE... YOU, ME, US...
MAYBE A MERCHANT'S SON...
A FARMER'S DAUGHTER...
LET'S ENJOY THE FESTIVAL LIKE THE OTHER COUPLES-- CHAT AND DANCE.. I WOULD LIKE TO DO THAT...
THAT'S A GREAT IDEA! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE OUR LAST TRIP THAT I CAN BE MYSELF, WITHOUT PEOPLE LOOKING OVER MY SHOULDER!!
EHREN...
YOU CAN.. KISS ME IF YOU'D LIKE.

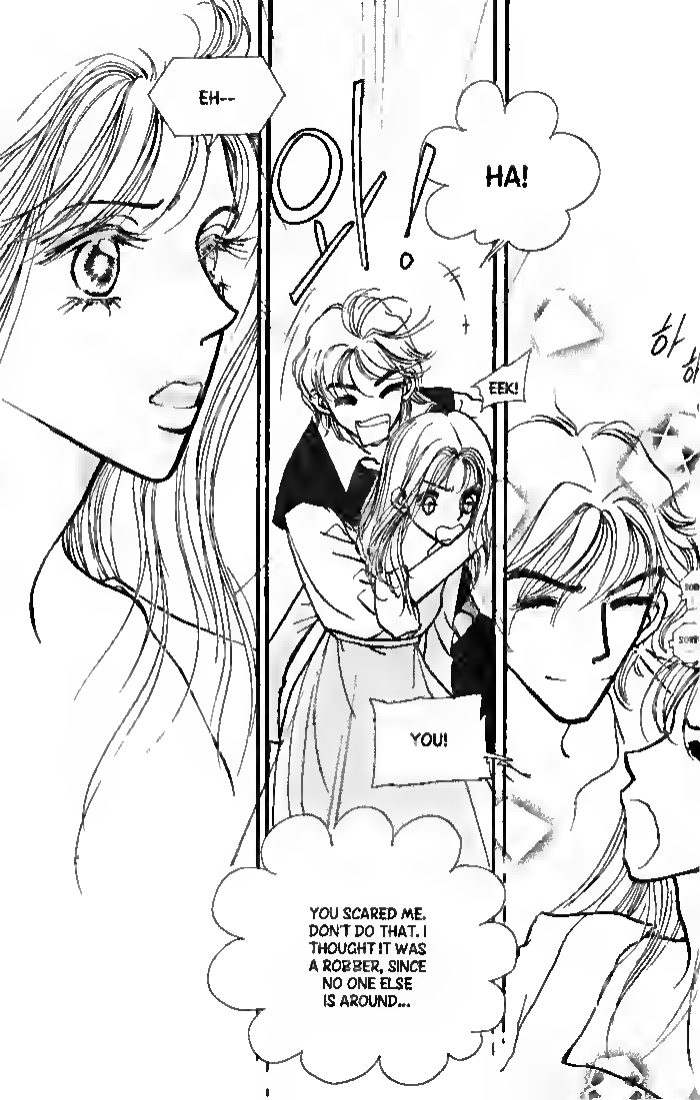
I DON'T WANT TO.
...
WHY...?
ARE YOU UPSET BECAUSE OF LAST TIME?
I DON'T WANT TO KISS YOU WHEN I'M DRUNK... I REEK OF ALCOHOL, SO...
I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A FANTASTIC KISS...NEXT TIME...
LEANNE
TITO IS REALLY GOOD WITH THE LADIES... THAT'S ALL I HEARD ABOUT ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT.

IT'D BE GREAT IF SPRING LASTS FOREVER IN PHANTASMA, SO THAT TITO AND EMMA COULD LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER, HUH?
THAT EHREN! IF YOU COME BACK...
IF YOU EVEN TOUCH A HAIR ON YUNA'S HEAD...!!
Couldn't sleep a wink because he was doing this all night
REALLY? YOU GUYS DON'T KNOW, EITHER?
UH HUH...
DO YOU THINK...I'LL DO ALL RIGHT?
I WANT TO BE A GOOD QUEEN...

UGH! I COULDN'T SLEEP A WINK LAST NIGHT...
WHO KNEW THAT YUNA HAD SUCH BAD SLEEPING HABITS?
WHAT DOES SHE TAKE ME FOR?
THIS WEDDING FESTIVAL THAT EHREN ASKED ME TO PARTICIPATE IN AT THIS SMALL PHANTASMA VILLAGE...
...SEEMED LIKE A BONUS TO MY EVERYDAY LIFE.

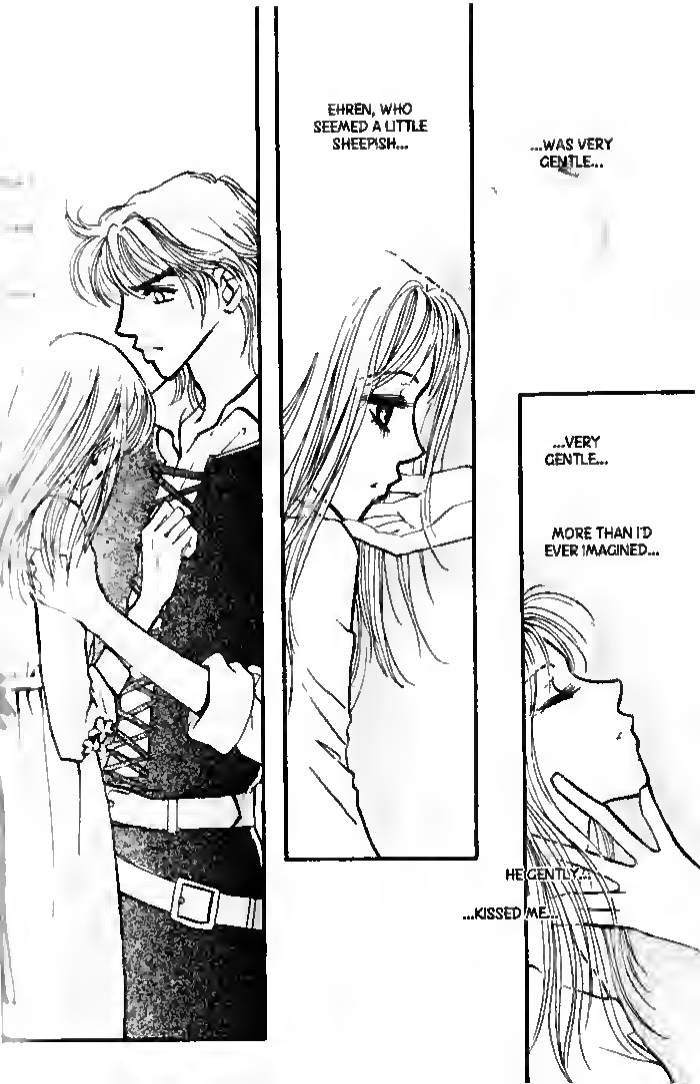

I SANG AND SHOUTED FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I CAME TO PHANTASMA...
I LAUGHED AS MUCH AS I WANTED...
...WITH EHREN...
DO YOU KNOW THIS? THIS IS HIP HOP...THIS IS TECHNO...
WHAT'S THAT?
하하하
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN'T DO...
WOW! NO WAY! WHO KNEW YOU'D BE SO GOOD AT DANCING?


WOW, THE VILLAGE LOOKS SO SMALL FROM HERE...
I WISH TITO AND EMMA COULD LIVE HAPPILY FOREVER...
EHREN, IS THE CARRIAGE FIXED?
...
EHREN--
EHREN--
EHREN--


EH--
HA!
EEK!
YOU!
YOU SCARED ME. DON'T DO THAT. I THOUGHT IT WAS A ROBBER, SINCE NO ONE ELSE IS AROUND...

THIS... I PROMISE YOU...
IN ANY GIVEN MOMENT...
...AT ANY GIVEN TIME...
...IN ANY GIVEN PLACE...
...I'LL ALWAYS BE AT YOUR SIDE...

...


EHREN, WHO SEEMED A LITTLE SHEEPISH...
...WAS VERY GENTLE...
...VERY GENTLE...
MORE THAN I'D EVER IMAGINED...
HE GENTLY...
...KISSED ME...

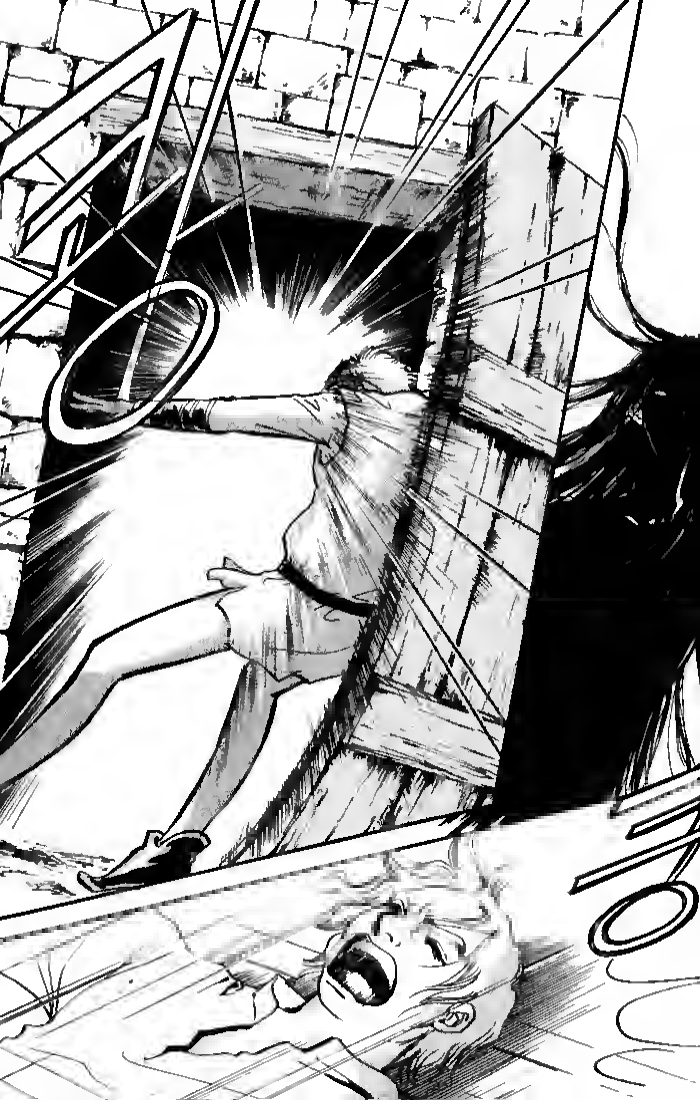
THE WHOLE WORLD...
...SEEMED FILLED...
...WITH A WARM, FLOWERY FRAGRANCE...

Mlol..
OH MY... SIR, YOU'VE FINALLY WOKEN UP...
MY WORD! I THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE DEAD. IT'S A MIRACLE YOU'RE ALIVE, BUT A GREATER MIRACLE THAT YOU'VE RECOVERED SO QUICKLY...

WHERE AM I?
YOU DON'T REMEMBER? MY HUSBAND FOUND YOU ADRIFT IN THE RIVER...
MY HUSBAND SAID YOU LOOKED LIKE A HIGH-RANKING KNIGHT. HE THOUGHT THAT IF WE HELPED YOU, WE MIGHT GET A REWARD...
BUT, THAT'S NOT MY THINKING AT ALL...
I FELT AS THOUGH MY HEART WERE BREAKING AS I TOOK CARE OF YOU...
MY HEART ACHED AT THE THOUGHT OF SUCH AN ATTRACTIVE MAN DYING...

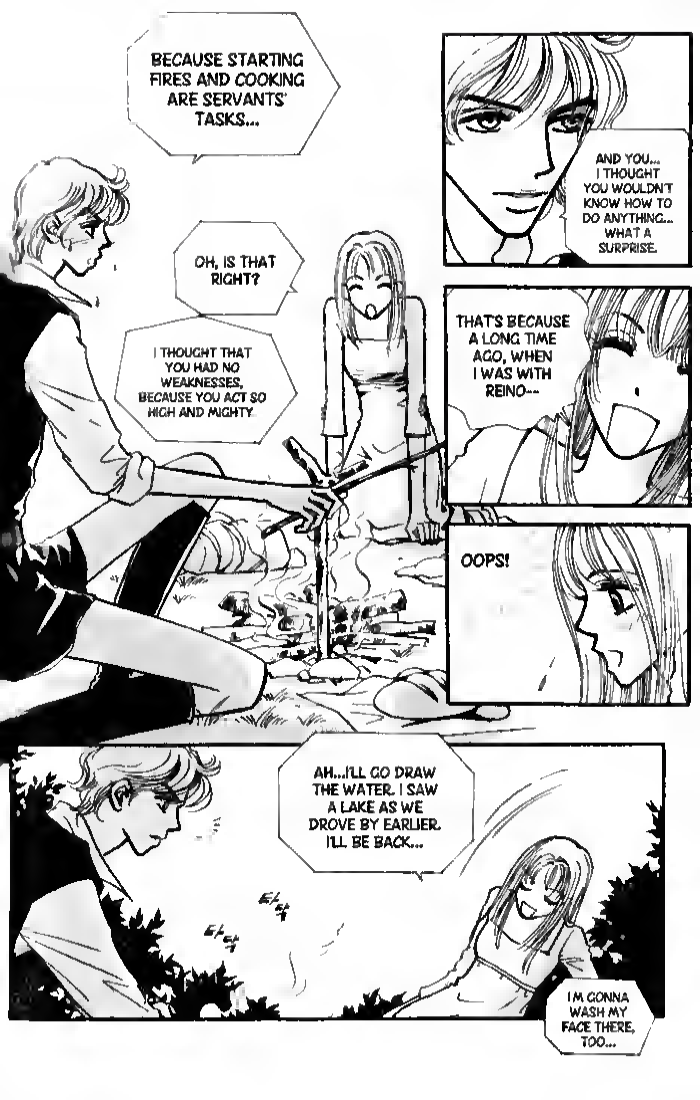
WHY IS THIS WOMAN ACTING THIS WAY...?
WHAT?
SLAM!
ARE YOU REALLY ALL RIGHT...?
YOU'RE NOT HURTING ANYMORE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING IN BROAD DAYLIGHT--?

HO-HONEY...
AAAA

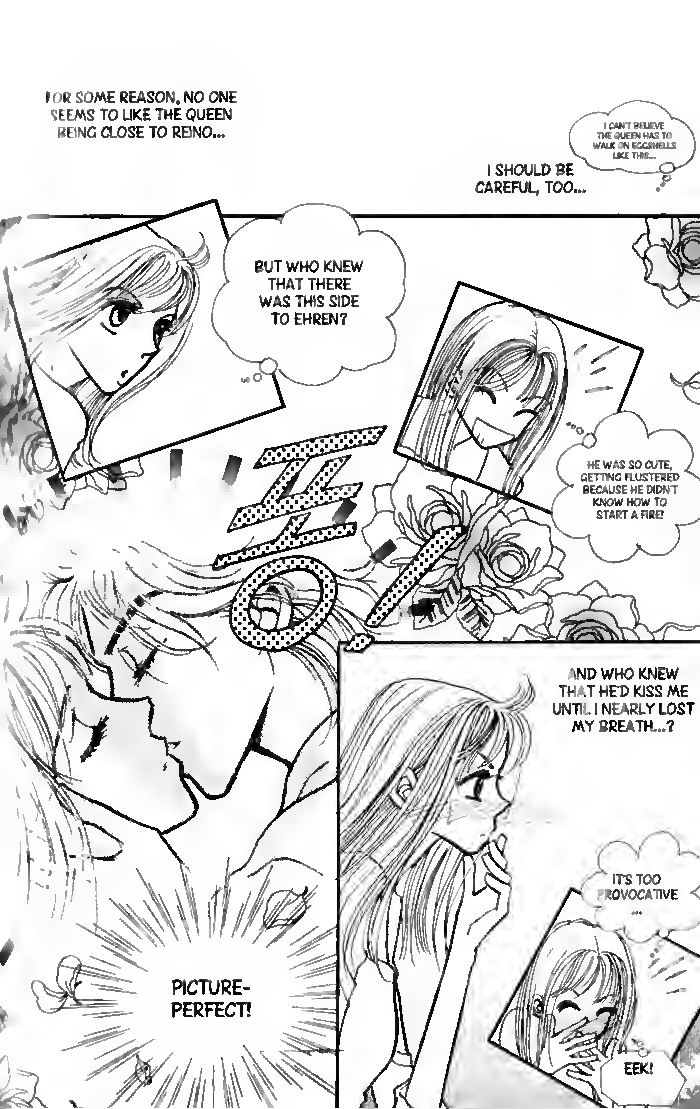


STUPID FOOL... YOU THINK THAT'S REASON ENOUGH TO KILL A HELPLESS WOMAN?!
U-URP!
AAAH!

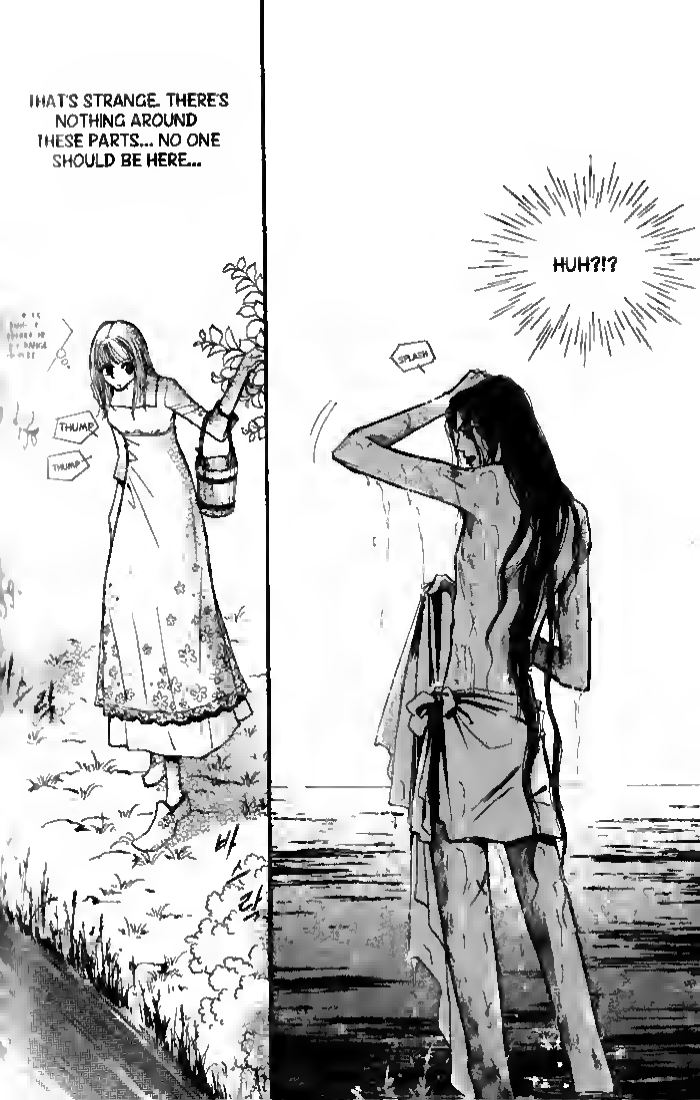
EHREN AND I ARE TAKING A VACATION. BOTH OF US ARE HIDING OUR TRUE IDENTITY... HAPPILY ENJOYING OUR NEWFOUND FREEDOM.
(ha ha )
WOW! IT'S DONE! ♡ WE'VE GOT OUR FIRE...
COUGH
COUGH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, EHREN? YOU'VE GOT TO BLOW ON THE FIRE SO IT WON'T GO OUT...
SORRY, SORRY, YUNA...
Ah, it hurts my eyes
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
I'M SURPRISED THERE ARE THINGS SIR EHREN DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO DO...

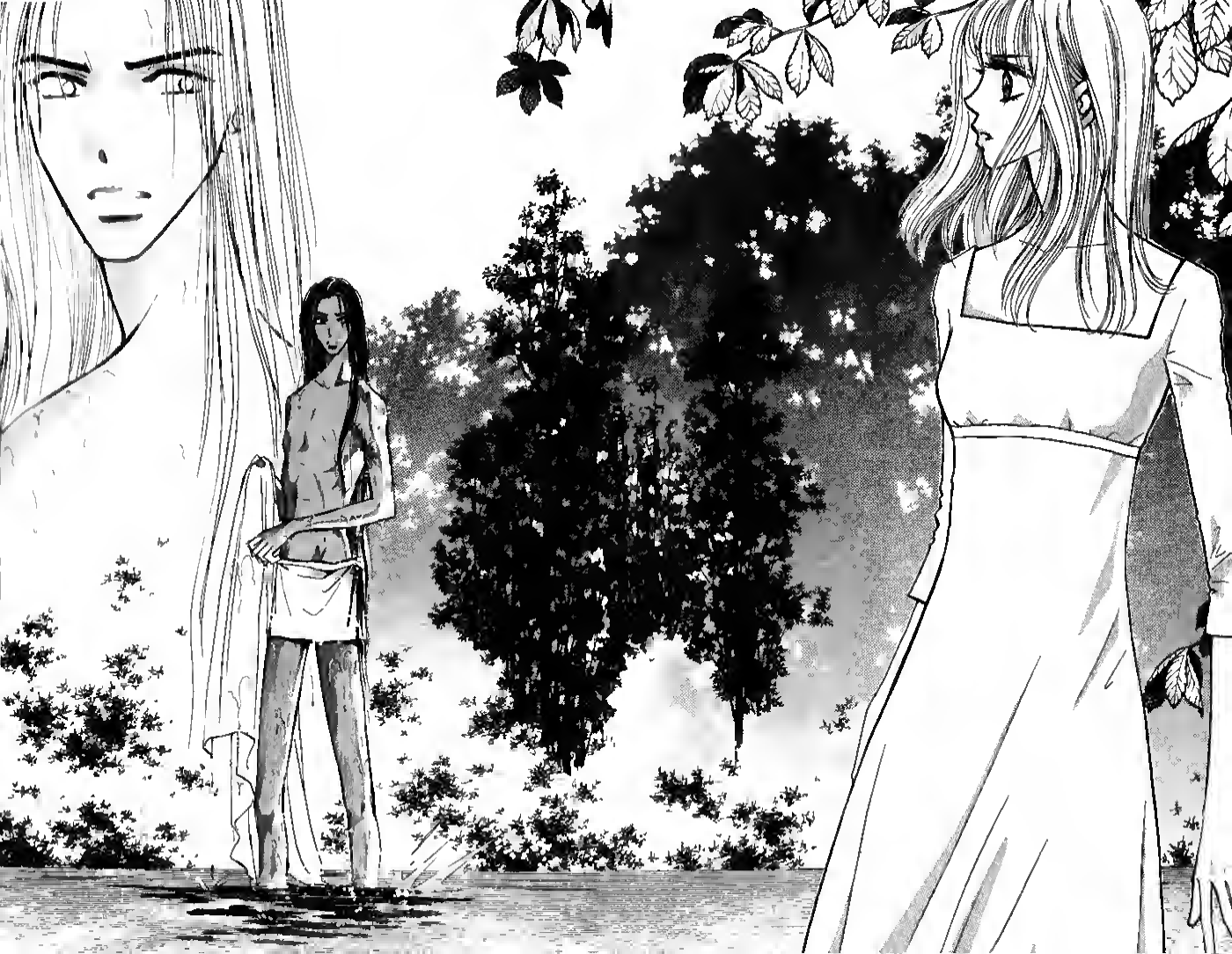

BECAUSE STARTING FIRES AND COOKING ARE SERVANTS' TASKS...
AND YOU... I THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T KNOW HOW TO DO ANYTHING... WHAT A SURPRISE.
OH, IS THAT RIGHT?
I THOUGHT THAT YOU HAD NO WEAKNESSES, BECAUSE YOU ACT SO HIGH AND MIGHTY.
THAT'S BECAUSE A LONG TIME AGO, WHEN I WAS WITH REINO---
OOPS!
AH...I'LL GO DRAW THE WATER. I SAW A LAKE AS WE DROVE BY EARLIER. I'LL BE BACK...
I'M GONNA WASH MY FACE THERE, TOO...

BE CAREFUL.
PREPARE A DELICIOUS DINNER!
I'LL BRING SOME STRAWBERRIES WHEN I COME BACK...
AH, I ALMOST MADE A MISTAKE...
THE VIBE WAS SO GOOD BETWEEN ME AND EHREN... THEN I ALMOST BROUGHT UP REINO...

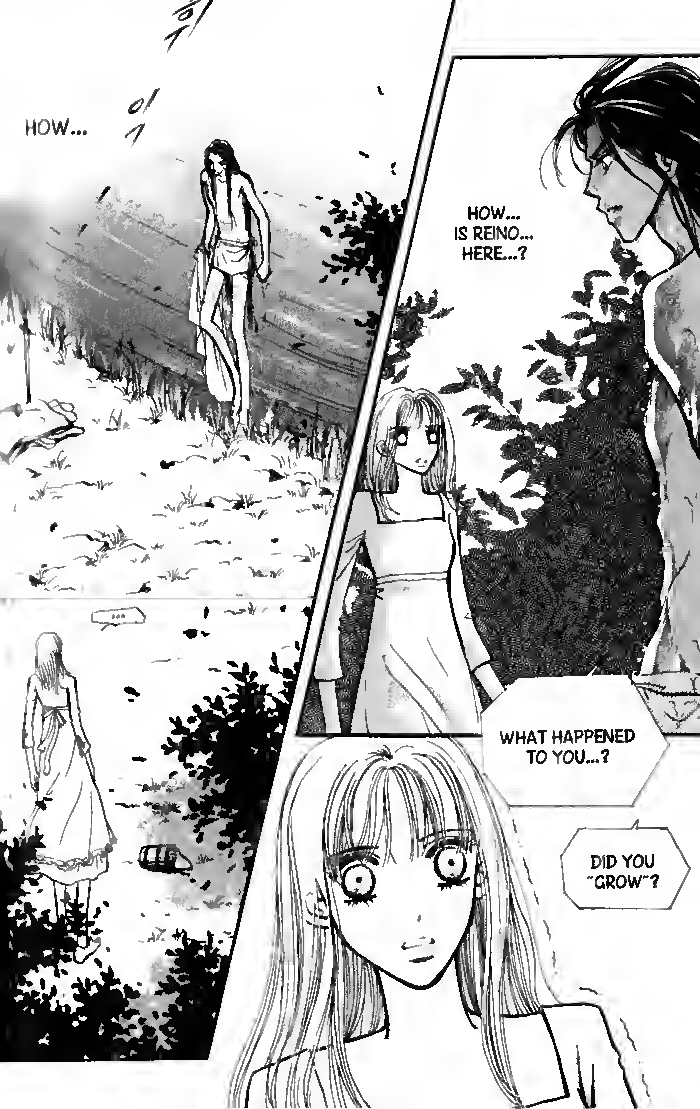

FOR SOME REASON, NO ONE SEEMS TO LIKE THE QUEEN BEING CLOSE TO REINO...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THE QUEEN HAS TO WALK ON EGGSHELLS LIKE THIS...
I SHOULD BE CAREFUL, TOO...
BUT WHO KNEW THAT THERE WAS THIS SIDE TO EHREN?
HE WAS SO CUTE, GETTING FLUSTERED BECAUSE HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO START A FIRE!
AND WHO KNEW THAT HE'D KISS ME UNTIL I NEARLY LOST MY BREATH...?
IT'S TOO PROVOCATIVE ...
EEK!
PICTURE-PERFECT!

WOW--IT'S
THE LAKE!!
HUH...
SOUNDS LIKE
SOMEONE'S HERE...
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLAS


THAT'S STRANGE. THERE'S NOTHING AROUND THESE PARTS... NO ONE SHOULD BE HERE...
THUMP
THUMP
HUH?!?
SPLASH



YUNA...!!
REINO!!


HOW...
HOW... IS REINO... HERE...?
...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU...?
DID YOU "GROW"?

PANT
PANT

NO...
NO...
IT'S NOT REINO...
THIS ISN'T BECAUSE OF YOU...
...

YUNA...?
DON'T TOUCH ME!
NO... TH-THIS ISN'T BECAUSE OF YOU...!

YOU DISGUST ME, REINO!!

AH...
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO...?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THIS HEARTRENDING FEELING...
THIS HEARTRENDING FEELING...
MY HEART FEELS LIKE IT'S GOING TO BURST!!

THIS FEELING...
THIS ISN'T ME...!!
TH-THIS ISN'T ME...!

EHREN...
DINNER'S READY.
I COULDN'T BRING BACK THE STRAWBERRIES
SORRY FOR COMING BACK SO LATE...
DON'T WORRY. THERE'S PLENTY TO EAT...

YUNA?
I WANT TO RETURN TO WHERE THERE'RE A LOT OF PEOPLE...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, EVEN IF IT'S LATE... LET'S GO TO A VILLAGE...
I DON'T LIKE BEING ALONE... IT'S SCARY... I DON'T LIKE THIS PLACE...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
QUICKLY...

I'LL WAKE YOU UP WHEN WE ARRIVE. GO TO SLEEP IF YOU'RE TIRED.
차르르..
UH HUH..
EHREN...
다짐
다짐
YOU HAVE TO STAY BY MY SIDE...
차르르르..

DON'T WORRY.
GO TO SLEEP.
...

CLUTCH
AND ANOTHER THING...
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU, EHREN HWERUSUTE. BESIDES THE MISTLETOE DAGGER. .
GUARD THE CONTENTS OF THIS SATCHEL CAREFULLY...

IT'S A SECRET POTION...
IF PERHAPS THE OBJECT OF THE QUEEN'S AFFECTIONS AND THE SOURCE OF HER GROWTH IS NOT YOU...
...THIS IS A SECRET POTION THAT WILL FREEZE THE QUEEN'S HEART.
USE IT.

ORIGINALLY, I WAS PLANNING ON DELIVERING THIS TO YOUR UNCLE, CHANCELLOR KENT.
HOWEVER, I FEEL THAT YOU'D BE ABLE TO USE IT MORE WISELY NOW.
THIS POTION TOOK US A LONG TIME TO MAKE.
IT HAS THE OPPOSITE EFFECT OF THE POTION THAT QUEEN FREYJA TOOK...
IT FREEZES THE QUEEN'S EMOTIONS, ESPECIALLY HER PASSION FOR THE MAN SHE LOVES... IF THAT MAN HAPPENS TO BE REINO, THE POTION WILL WORK MOST EFFECTIVELY...

STUPID HEMEL...
YUNA
...

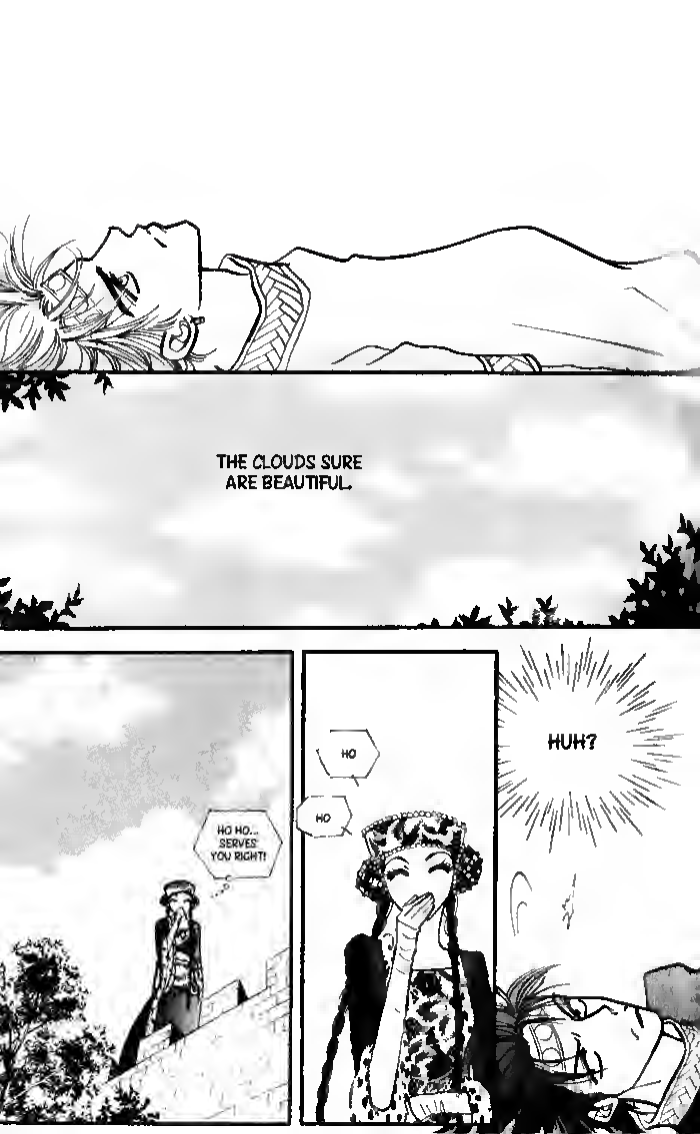
WHAT DOES YUNA SEE IN THAT GUY?
DAMN... DAMN...
THAT BASTARD, EMREN... I CAN'T FORGIVE HIM! IF YOU COME BACK—I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU OFF THAT EASILY...
I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND WOMEN...
HYAA!

EEK!
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
UH...?!
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

OH MY! THAT GUY'S HARASSING THE BIRDS AGAIN...

CHIRP
CHIRP CHIRP
CHIRP CHIRP
ARGH! SHUT UP... JUST WAIT A LITTLE!
UGH?
WHERE IS IT? WHAT THE--?
ON THAT THIN BRANCH--!!
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

AH!
ACK!
OUCH!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?! YOU LITTLE--!!
Ouch, that hurts! Don't touch me!
WAAAHHHHH!
GURGLE...


THE CLOUDS SURE ARE BEAUTIFUL.
HO HO... SERVES YOU RIGHT!
HO
HO
HUH?

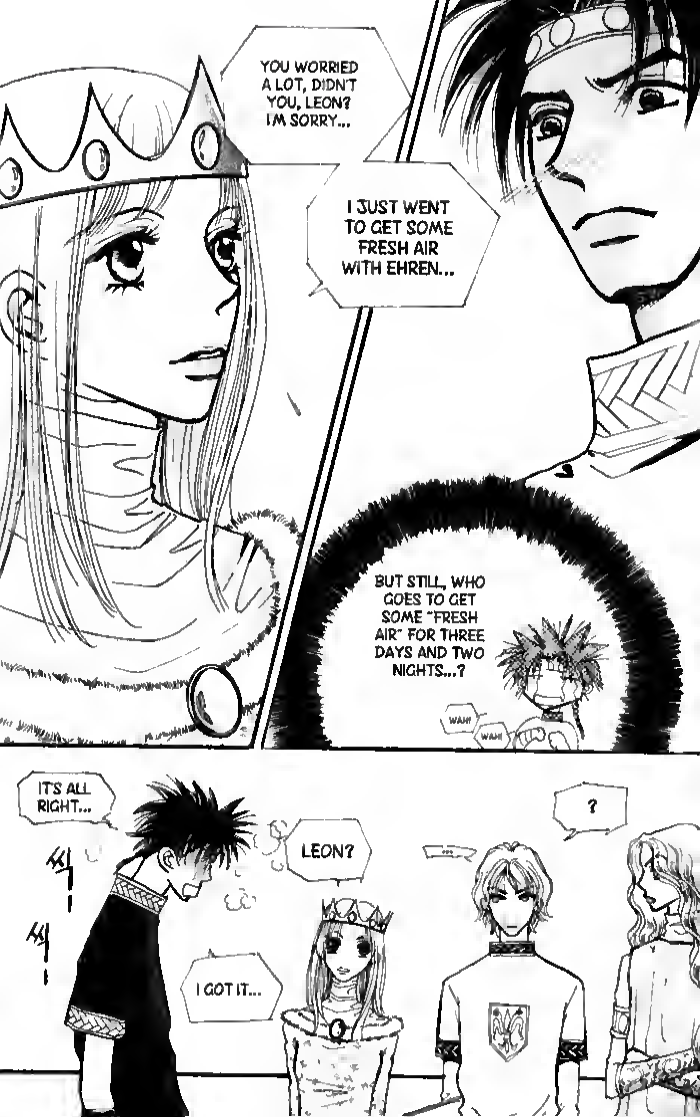
HMPH.
WHAT WAS THAT?
DID SOMEONE SEE ME?
OH MY... WHAT'S SO AMUSING, PRINCESS?
EEP!
AMUSING? WHAT WOULD AMUSE ME?

THE QUEEN AND SIR EHREN HAVE RETURNED FROM THEIR UNEXPLAINED DISAPPEARANCE.
DID YOU HEAR? THE QUEEN AND SIR EHREN WENT OFF TOGETHER...BY THEMSELVES...
THEN IT'S TRUE? THAT SIR EHREN IS THE CAUSE OF THE QUEEN'S GROWTH?
OH MY... SO, THEY'RE IN A RELATIONSHIP...
SLAM!

YOU! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU KIDNAPPED THE QUEEN!!
ON TOP OF THAT, YOU'VE SULLIED HER GOOD NAME...
I CHALLENGE YOU TO A DUEL!!
WHATEVER.
REPORT
HERE! THESE ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE SCHOOL.
WHAT? YOU'RE GOING TO BE A COWARD AND RUN AWAY?
REPORT
IF WE FIGHT, THE ONLY ONE WHO'LL GET HURT IS THE QUEEN!
KNOWING WHEN TO STEP DOWN IS THE SIGN OF A TRUE MAN, LEON.

WHAT? WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
I'LL REPEAT MYSELF.
IF YOU'RE SATISFIED WITH UNREQUITED LOVE, I CAN'T SPEAK AGAINST THAT...
WOO... SMELLS LIKE A BLOODBATH... A SWORDFIGHT...
...BUT I SAID THAT KNOWING WHEN TO STEP DOWN IS THE SIGN OF A TRUE MAN.
CRACK
Sound of rationale breaking down

EHREN, DID YOU ORGANIZE ALL THE REPORTS ON THE SCHOOL AS I'D ASKED YOU?
YOU STUPID BASTARD! I'M GOING TO TEAR YOU TO PIECES!!
THAT VOICE...!!
OH MY! LEON'S HERE, TOO...


YOU WORRIED A LOT, DIDN'T YOU, LEON? I'M SORRY...
I JUST WENT TO GET SOME FRESH AIR WITH EHREN...
BUT STILL, WHO GOES TO GET SOME "FRESH AIR" FOR THREE DAYS AND TWO NIGHTS...?
WAH!
WAH!
IT'S ALL RIGHT...
LEON?
I GOT IT...
?

THAT'S WHY EARTH IS TILTED AT A 23.5° ANGLE.
AND THAT'S WHY WE HAVE THE FOUR SEASONS...
EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON HOW FAR THE EARTH IS FROM THE SUN.
HONESTLY, ETERNAL SPRING IS SCIENTIFICALLY IMPOSSIBLE...
SCIEN-SCIEN-... WHAT?
OF COURSE IT'S POSSIBLE IF THE EARTH IS AT THE RIGHT ANGLE...

SO A COLD IS SPREAD THROUGH INFLUENZA... LIKE A DISEASE CAUSED BY A VIRUS...
? ? ?
Vi rus ?
DISEASES DON'T JUST COME AS A RESULT OF EVIL SPIRITS OR CURSES... BLAH BLAH!
WE'LL MAKE A FACILITY FOR CHILDREN AND COUPLES OVER HERE.
WE'LL PUT IN SOME BOATS IN THE SHAPE OF A SWAN ON THIS MANMADE LAKE...

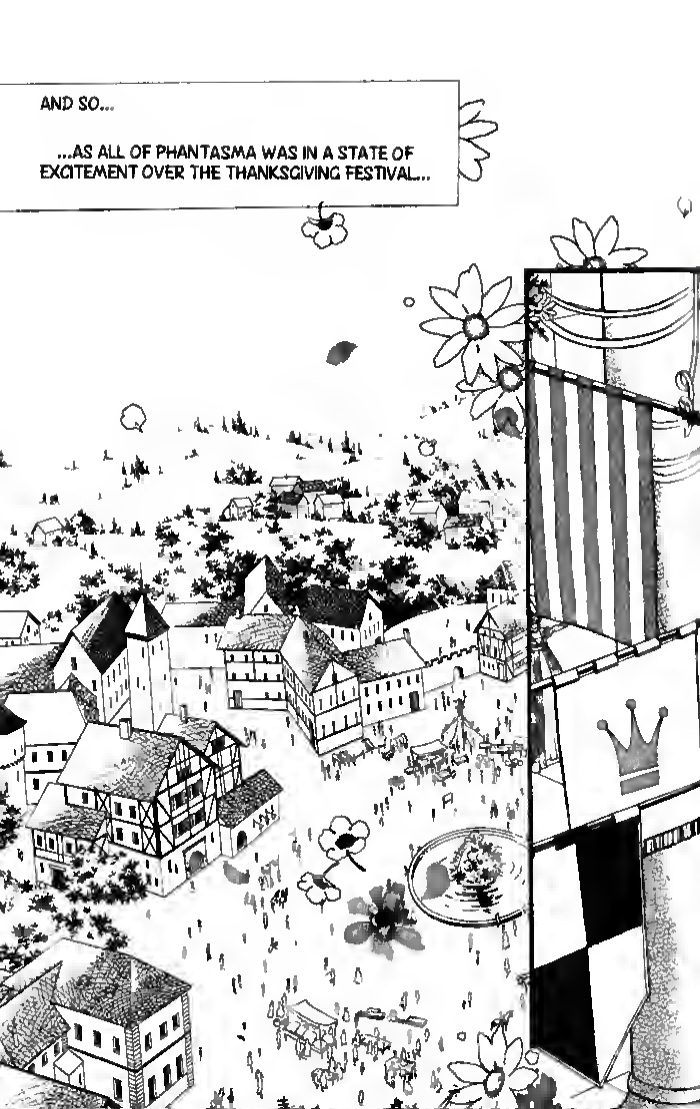
WE CAN USE MUSIC NOTES TO COMPOSE AND WRITE SONGS...
WOW ...
INDEED ...
PHANTASMA IS SLOWLY CHANGING. AT TIMES, I REALIZE THAT THE QUEEN'S AUTHORITY IS REALLY AMAZING. YOU CAN DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING...
OH MY, ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS? PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY ARE THE BASICS OF DEMOCRACY.
UGH! "DEMOCRACY"? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

WOW!
WHAT'S
ALL THIS?
Thanksgiving Festival

THIS IS PHANTASMA'S SPRINGTIME HARVEST!
THE THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD SOON.
WOW!
AND DURING THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL HUNT, YOUNG MEN GET KNIGHTED.
IS IT ANOTHER HUNT. IN THE FOREST OF DARKNESS?
HARVEST IN SPRING? THAT'S RIGHT... SINCE IT'S ALWAYS SPRING HERE...
(BUT IT'S STILL WEIRD...)
HO HO HO...NO, NO. IT'S JUST A REGULAR HUNT THAT TAKES PLACE IN THE FOREST. AND AFTERWARD, THERE'S A BARBEQUE PARTY...

SO I WAS THINKING, HOW ABOUT WE MAKE SOME NEW FOOD FOR THE THANKSGIVING PARTY?
PIZZA, DUMPLINGS...
FRIED CHICKEN, SWEET AND SOUR PORK...
HAMBURGER...
THERE'S GOING TO BE A SPECIAL MENU PREPARED WITH ALL NEW FOODS... YOU MAY GET EXCITED.
WE'RE DEAD!

AND ANOTHER THING! AN ULTRA-SPECTACULAR EVENT!
WHAT? A COSTUME BALL?
THE QUEEN HAS INTRODUCED ANOTHER USELESS IDEA!
EVERYONE MUST COME TO THE BALL WEARING A MASK! HOW WONDERFUL! ♡
A COSTUME BALL WILL BE HELD!!
OH, THE QUEEN HAS THOUGHT UP A FUN IDEA! ♡
THAT'S GREAT!
HMPH! DOES SHE ACTUALLY THINK PEOPLE WILL AGREE TO THAT PREPOSTEROUS IDEA?
IF PEOPLE ARE WEARING MASKS, WE WON'T KNOW WHO'S WHO. HOW CAN WE PROTECT THEM, THEN?

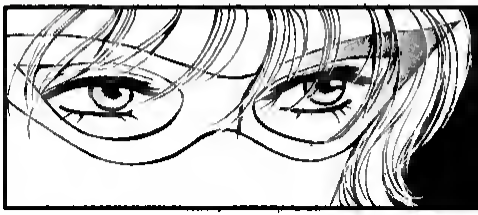

AND SO...
...AS ALL OF PHANTASMA WAS IN A STATE OF EXCITEMENT OVER THE THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL...

AND THE LORDS AND ROYAL FAMILIES CAME TOGETHER ALL THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOM TO PARTAKE IN THE HUNT...
...PHANTASMA'S FIRST COSTUME BALL WAS HELD.

HEH HEH HEH... I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
HEH HEH...
HOW MANY THANKSGIVING FESTIVALS DO YOU THINK WE'LL BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE THIS SPRING?
I WISH WE COULD CELEBRATE A THIRD OR A FOURTH.
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT--THIRD THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL...?
AND WHERE ARE EHREN, LEON, AND SCHILLER?
LIBERA SAID SHE WASN'T GOING TO COME.
AND I DIDN'T TELL ANYONE WHAT KIND OF COSTUME I'D BE WEARING.

WHAT A STUPID QUEEN. WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT THE NEW LAW?
AND WHAT IS THIS SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL BUSINESS?
THOSE GUYS... THEY'RE JUST OPENLY CRITICIZING THE QUEEN BECAUSE THEY'RE WEARING MASKS AND NO ONE CAN IDENTIFY THEM...
ISN'T THE QUEEN GETTING AHEAD OF HERSELF? I MEAN, WE STILL HAVE THE CHANCELLOR...
THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY...
... FOR ALL THE WOMEN WHO WEREN'T ABLE TO APPROACH ME UNTIL NOW BECAUSE OF MY DAZZLING BEAUTY..
Heh heh
WAIT FOR ME, YOU WEALTHY WOMEN... THERE'S ENOUGH OF ME TO GO AROUND TONIGHT!
NO WAY...
THAT VOICE...
IS HE ALWAYS THINKING LIKE THAT...?
IN ANY CASE, WHERE'S YUNA?
SHE SAID THAT HER COSTUME WAS A SECRET. I WONDER WHAT SHE'S WEARING...

WERE THEY SENT
INVITATIONS, TOO?


IF THE QUEEN BECOM
USELESS, THOSE
FAIRIES WILL BE TH
FIRST TO REMOVE H
FROM THE THRONE

EXCUSE ME... I HEARD THAT FAIRIES KNOW EVERYTHING--IS THIS TRUE?
DO YOU KNOW HOW THE QUEEN GOT HERE? MAYBE THERE'S A WAY TO GET TO THE OTHER WORLD...
AND WHY IS THAT SO INTERESTING TO YOU...LITTLE GIRL?
SHE'S SO CUTE...
THERE IS A METHOD TO CONNECT TO THE OTHER WORLD...
I MADE A BET WITH A FRIEND, HA HA HA...
IS IT TRUE? THERE REALLY IS A WAY INTO THE OTHER WORLD?
HMMM...
AH, HEMIL.

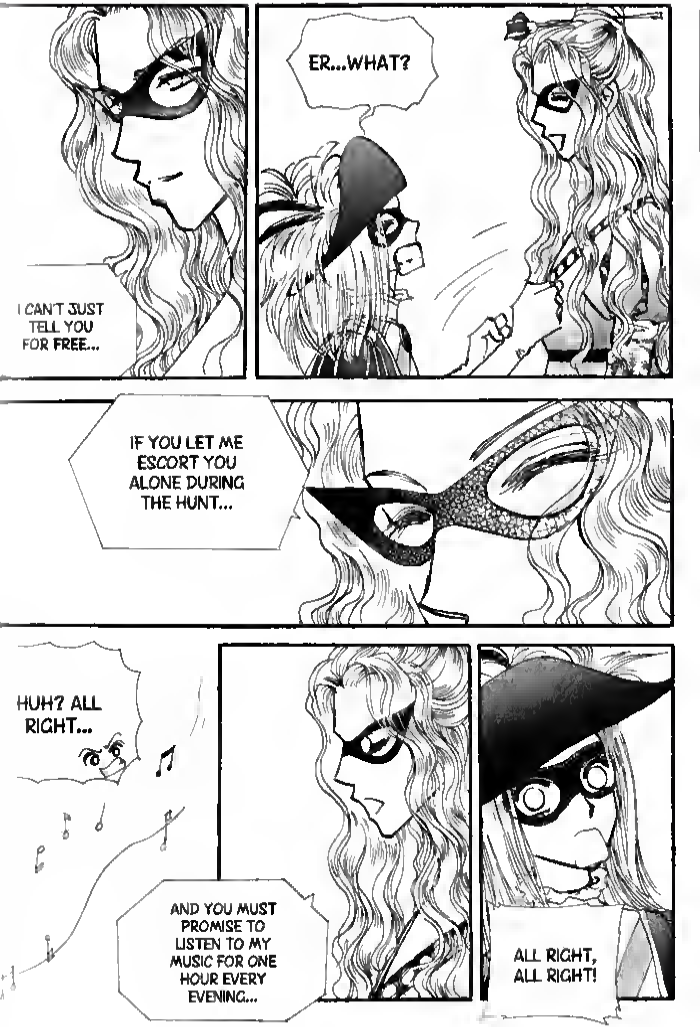
OH! IT'S HEMEL!
EEK!
I CAN'T TELL WHO'S WHO WITH ALL THESE COSTUMES...
HA HA HA BUT IT'S PRETTY FUN, ISN'T IT?
I'VE GOT TO ESCAPE-- SERIOUSLY. THERE GOES MY CHANCE TO DISCOVER THE WAY OUT OF PHANTASMA...
SO, IF EVERYTHING WORKS OUT WELL BETWEEN THE QUEEN AND EHREN HWERUSUTE, WE'LL BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING TIME AGAIN...
THERE'S A STORY TH
EVERYONE IS DOOMED
THE NEW QUEEN FAL
IN LOVE WITH REIN
ESPECIALLY AFTER QU
FREYJA'S CURSE
HUH? FREYJA...?

UM, WHO IS FREYJA?
WHAT ARE YOU KIDDING?
YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THE NAME OF THE QUEEN WHO BROUGHT THIS CURSE UPON PHANTASMA?
WHAT WAS FREYJA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH REINO...?
두근
두근
두근
HERE YOU ARE!
UH, WHO IS THIS? AT SUCH AN IMPORTANT MOMENT...
WAS LOOKING FOR YOU ERYWHERE. ULD YOU E TO DANCE WITH ME?

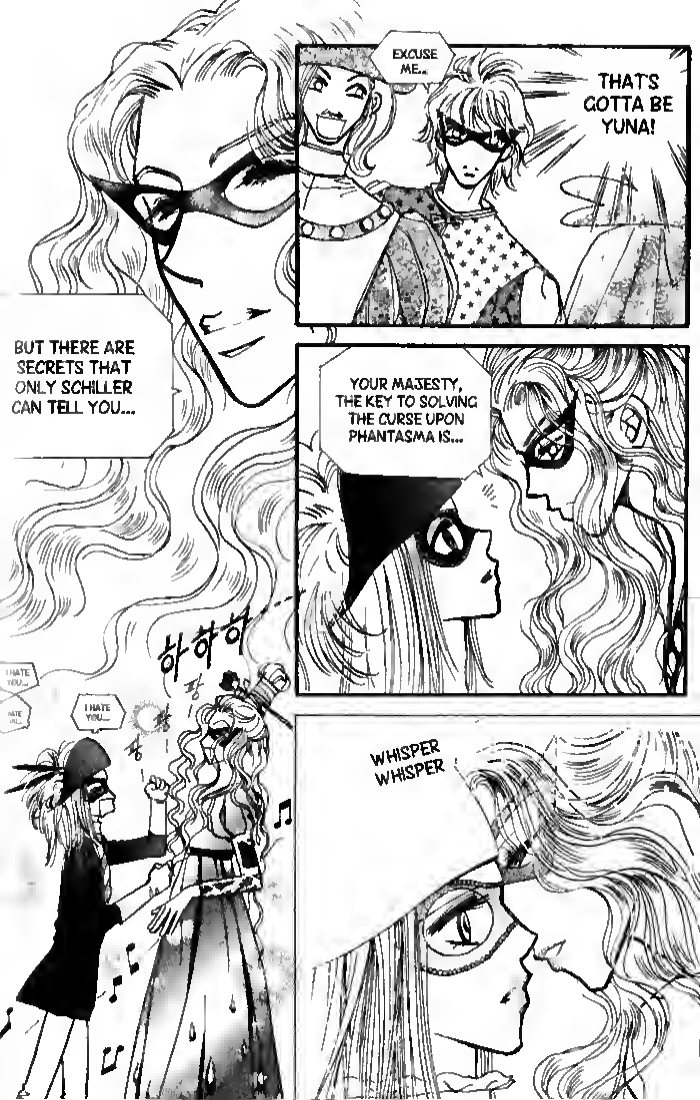
Schiller
OH... SIR YUNA! ♡
HOW DID HE KNOW IT WAS ME?
I CAN TELL IT'S YOU, NO MATTER WHAT DISGUISE YOU TAKE.
I'M SORRY YUNA... I COAXED YOUR MAIDSERVANTS TO TELL ME...
I JUST FOLLOW WHERE MY HEART NATURALLY LEADS ME...
I'm a thief

SCHILLER, DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW ABOUT QUEEN FREYJA?
하하하하
YOU REALLY ARE WONDERFUL AT DANCING...
THE QUEEN WHO, TOGETHER WITH REINO, BROUGHT THE CURSE UPON PHANTASMA?
YOU DO KNOW!! THEN YOU MUST ALSO KNOW THE METHOD TO RID THE CURSE!
PERHAPS...

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? DO YOU KNOW OR NOT?
AOK...
THIS WAY...SO NO ONE CAN BOTHER US...
SCHILLER, TELL ME, PLEASE... HUH?
COULD THAT BE...?


I CAN'T JUST TELL YOU FOR FREE...
ER...WHAT?
IF YOU LET ME ESCORT YOU ALONE DURING THE HUNT...
HUH? ALL RIGHT...
AND YOU MUST PROMISE TO LISTEN TO MY MUSIC FOR ONE HOUR EVERY EVENING...
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!

AND YOU MUST PROMISE NOT TO SPEAK TO EHREN OR STAY IN CLOSE QUARTERS WITH LEON UNTIL THE END OF THE HUNT...
D
WHAT THE--? THAT'S UNDERHANDED..
ARE YOU GOING TO DO IT OR NOT? IF YOU JUST KEEP TO THESE FEW SIMPLE PROMISES.
IF YOU DON'T TELL ME QUICKLY, I'M JUST GOING TO ASK SOMEONE ELSE.


EXCUSE ME...
THAT'S GOTTA BE YUNA!
BUT THERE ARE SECRETS THAT ONLY SCHILLER CAN TELL YOU...
YOUR MAJESTY, THE KEY TO SOLVING THE CURSE UPON PHANTASMA IS...
하하하
I HATE YOU...
I HATE YOU...
WHISPER WHISPER

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...?
NO WAY...
THAT IS THE CURSE OF QUEEN FREYJA.
BUT...PEOPLE SAY OTHER THINGS--
SHH...
KEEP THIS IN MIND. NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE ELSE SAYS, THEY'RE LYING.

YOU'VE REALLY GOTTEN USED TO DRESSING UP AS A WOMAN, SCHILLER.
AND YUNA-- I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU...
YOU CAN'T FORGET THE PROMISE YOU MADE ME JUST NOW.
PROMISE?
IT'S NOTHING!

PRINCESS LIBERA IS THE TRUE QUEEN. SHE'S SO MUCH MORE GLAMOROUS...
IT'D BE GREAT IF PRINCESS LIBERA COULD GROW QUICKLY...
Libera
HMPH--MY POPULARITY IS STILL HIGHER THAN THAT OF THE QUEEN'S...
YOU'RE SO YOUNG AND YOU DANCE SO WELL...
YOU'RE SO...
MISS, WOULD YOU CARE FOR A DANCE?
EEP!
THAT VOICE...

흠칫
헉!
NO WAY... YOU SAID, YOU WOULDN'T COME TO THE PARTY...
웅성
웅성
웅성
시끌
시끌
IT'S REINO!
WHAT? WHAT...?

WHAT'S THIS...? WHAT ARE THOSE STRANGE THINGS ON YOUR FACES? WHAT HAPPENED TO EVERYONE?
WELL, ACCORDING TO THE QUEEN, EVERYONE IN PHANTASMA MUST WEAR A MASK TO TONIGHT'S BALL...

MOVE.
ACK
MY BROTHER-IN-LAW SEEMS TO HAVE SNUCK INTO THIS PARTY. I'M GOING TO TAKE HIM HOME.
SORRY...
tick tock
tick

GOOD. I DON'T NEED TO SEARCH FOR HIM. HE WALKED RIGHT INTO THE PALACE...
!
HERE YOU ARE...
LET'S GO--
저벅
저벅
저벅

AH...
YUNA...
YUNA...
So shocked that she cannot speak

WHERE DID THEY GO? THEY JUST CAME OUT THIS WAY...
HOW DID HE RECOGNIZE YUNA RIGHT AWAY?
YUNA!!

WHERE DID THEY GO? THEY JUST CAME OUT THIS WAY...
HOW DID HE RECOGNIZE YUNA RIGHT AWAY?
YUNA!!

COULD YOU IDENTIFY YUNA RIGHT AWAY?
I'M SORRY, YUNA--I'M NOT IN THE MOOD FOR A THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL PARTY...
UGH! THAT EHREN! HE ALWAYS ACTS SO HIGH AND MIGHTY...
DAM-MIT...

L-LET ME GO...
I'M GETTING DIZZY...
AND WITH THAT, THE THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL CAME TO AN END.
WHY DID YOU RUN AWAY LAST TIME?
I CAN'T BELIEVE REINO RETURNED ON HIS OWN...

IF YOU'RE GOING TO ASK ME THESE QUESTIONS...
...YOU CAN STOP RIGHT THERE...
YOU'VE DONE WHATEVER YOU WANTED UNTIL NOW.
STOP PAYING ATTENTION TO ME.

I'M DIFFERENT FROM THE PREVIOUS QUEENS... I'M NOT THE ONE FOR YOU...
I'M NOT ATTRACTIVE... STOP LOOKING AT ME...
SO THAT I CAN JUST--SO THAT...
...SPRING CAN CONTINUE...
WHY DON'T YOU WANT THE PEOPLE OF PHANTASMA TO BE HAPPY?
YOU JUST NEED TO BE STILL...

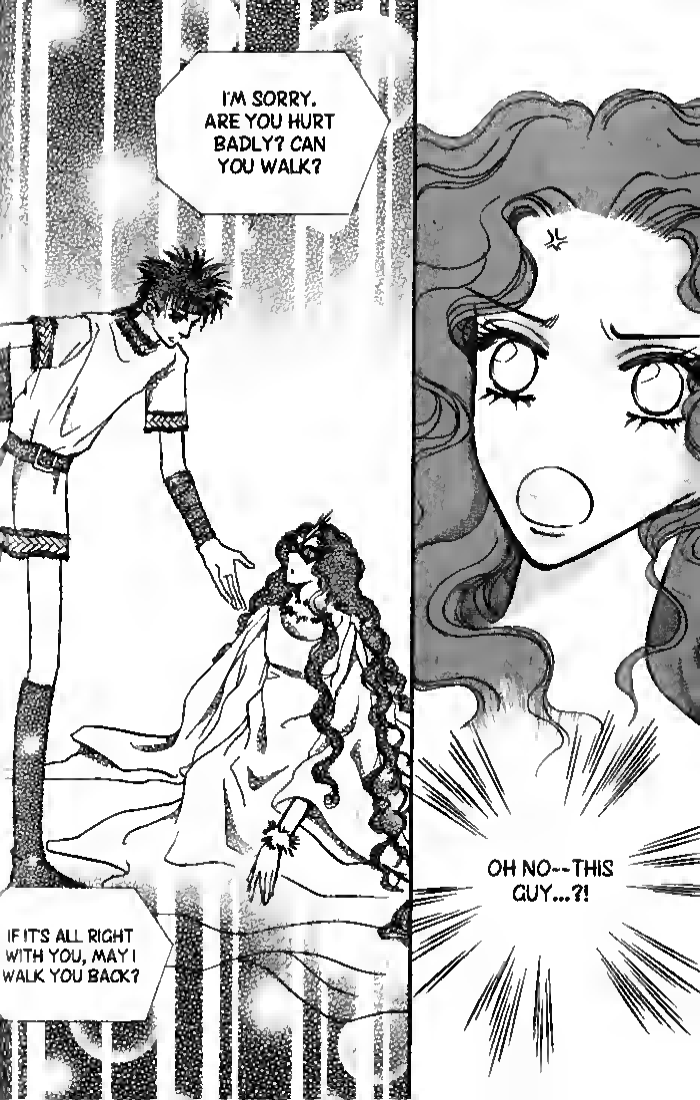
THE REASON FOR MY GROWTH ISN'T YOU, REINO...SO...
SO...
LET ME GO... I DON'T WANT EHREN TO GET THE WRONG IDEA...
YOUR MAJESTY... THE KEY TO SOLVING THE CURSE UPON PHANTASMA IS...
...FOR REINO TO LOVE THE QUEEN MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IN THIS WORLD!

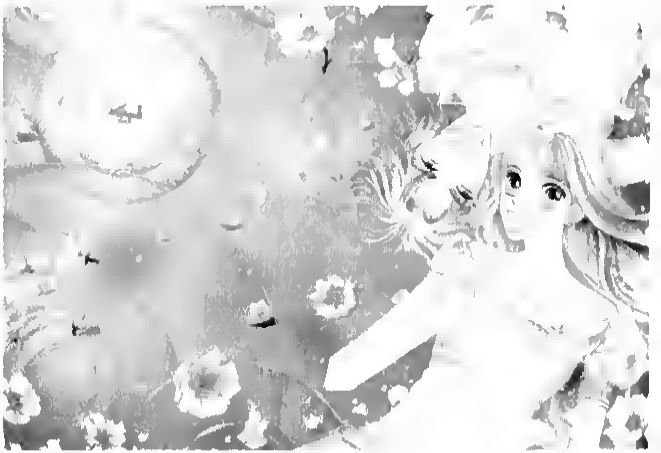
OF ALL THE QUEENS I'VE BROUGHT TO PHANTASMA, YOU...
...YOU'RE THE FIRST...
...THE ONLY QUEEN WHO EXPERIENCED GROWTH BECAUSE OF SOMEONE OTHER THAN ME...
THE ONLY QUEEN WHO CRIED BECAUSE OF A DIFFERENT MAN...
IT'S FUNNY...

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST GET SOME FRESH AIR ON MY HORSE...
TMP TMP TMP

UGH!! I BIT MY TONGUE!!
WHAT THE--? YOU'VE GOT TO LOOK WHERE YOU'RE GOI--
AH...
!
!
WHAT? IT'S A WOMAN...?

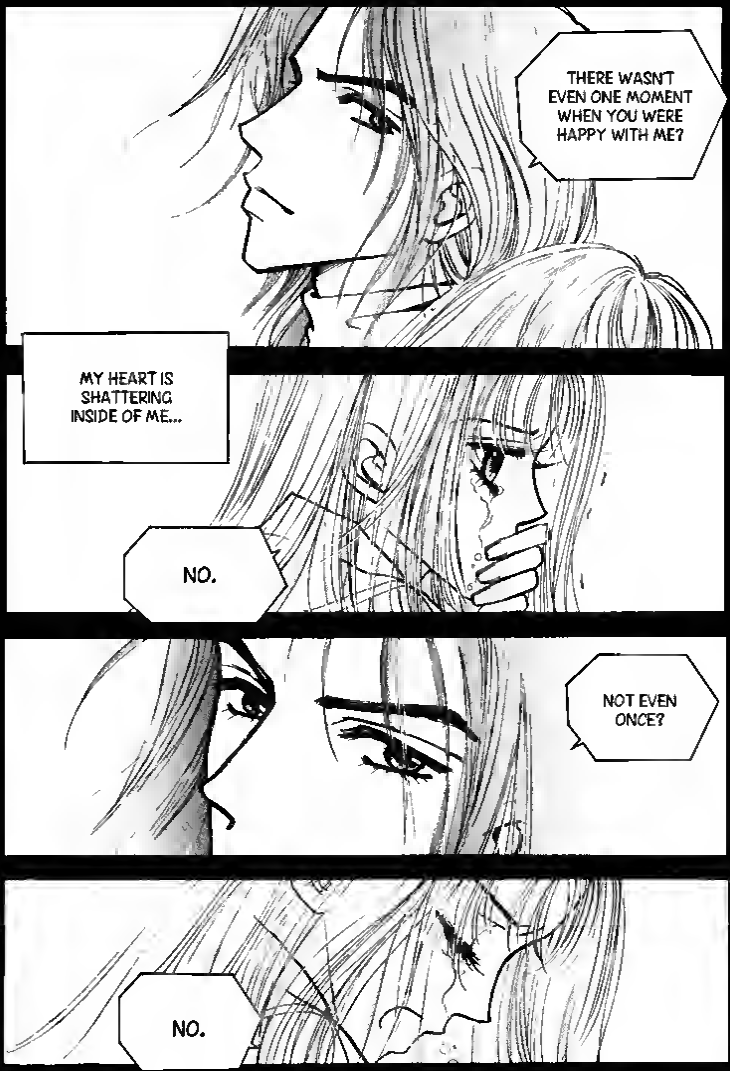
ER, IT'S DARK... YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL...
HERE, GET UP. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
AH! I THINK I SPRAINED MY ANKLE...
WHO DARES--?
OH, WAIT... I'M NOT AT THE COSTUME BALL...
!
...


I'M SORRY. ARE YOU HURT BADLY? CAN YOU WALK?
OH NO--THIS GUY...?!
IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, MAY I WALK YOU BACK?



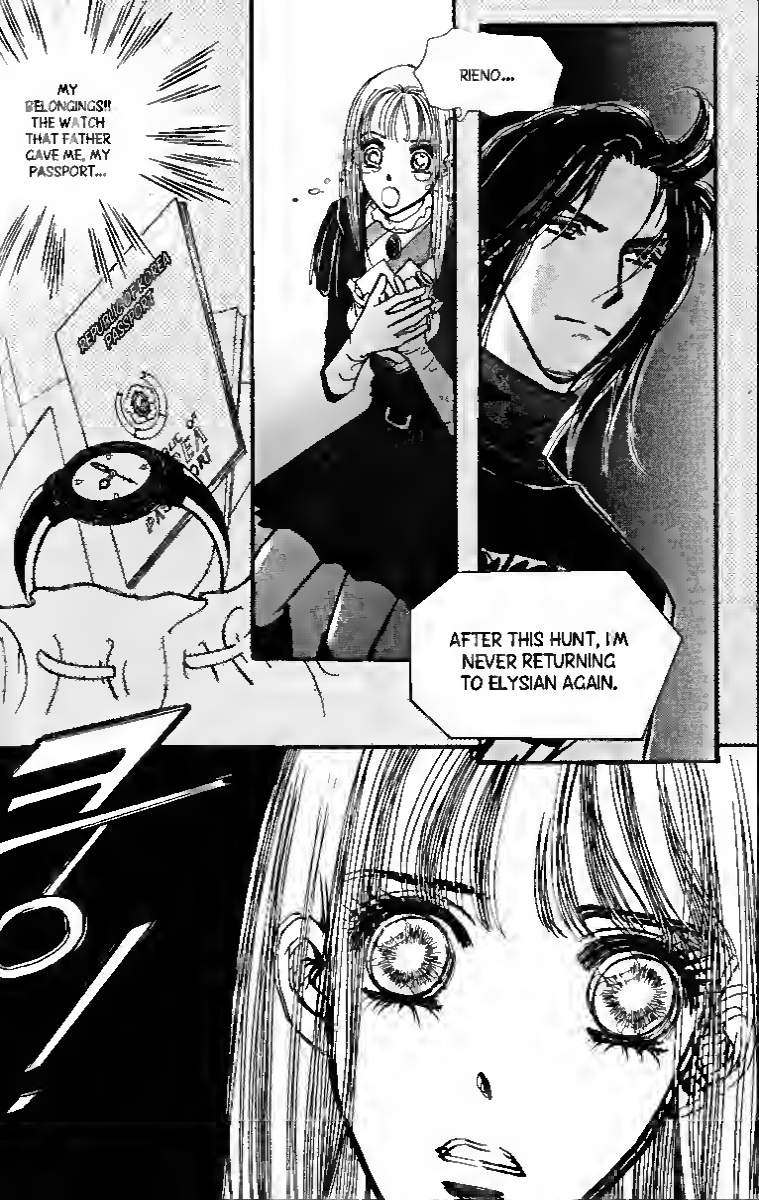
DO YOU LIKE EHREN HWERUSUTE SO MUCH YOU'D CONSIDER HIM ABOVE ALL ELSE AT THIS MOMENT?
And you're the queen
UH HUH.

YOU MEAN I'M JUST A BOTHER? YOU MUST HATE ME...
OF COURSE I'VE HEARD YOU SAY THAT SO MUCH, I DARESAY I'VE GOTTEN USED TO IT...
...SINCE I TOOK YOU AWAY FROM YOUR FAMILY AND THE WORLD THAT YOU KNEW, DRAGGING YOU TO THIS PLACE...


THERE WASN'T EVEN ONE MOMENT WHEN YOU WERE HAPPY WITH ME?
MY HEART IS SHATTERING INSIDE OF ME...
NO.
NOT EVEN ONCE?
NO.

THEN, MAYBE I'VE MADE THE RIGHT SELECTION AFTER ALL.
AT FIRST...I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A CRYBABY AND A KID BEYOND SAVING...
NOW, YOU'VE BECOME A QUEEN AND YOU'VE FOUND A MAN TO LOVE--ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU GROW...
AND FURTHERMORE...
...I NO LONGER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MATTERS OF THE HEART REGARDING THE QUEEN. I CAN FINALLY LIVE QUIETLY, BY MYSELF, AS I'VE ALWAYS WANTED...

BUT--
WHY ARE YOU
CRYING?
ドン!
HERE.
THESE THINGS MAY NO
LONGER HAVE MEANING,
BUT I'D LIKE TO RETURN
THEM TO YOU...


MY BELONGINGS!! THE WATCH THAT FATHER GAVE ME, MY PASSPORT...
REPUBLIC OF KOREA PASSPORT
RIENO...
AFTER THIS HUNT, I'M NEVER RETURNING TO ELYSIAN AGAIN.
ええ！

ALONG WITH THIS ETERNAL SPRING...
...IT LOOKS LIKE I'M FINALLY GOING TO LIVE IN PEACE AND QUIET...
I FEEL AS THOUGH A PET IS BEING TAKEN AWAY FROM ME...

UNTIL NOW, NO QUEEN HAS BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE THE THIRD THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL.
AFTER THE SECOND THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL, WINTER ALWAYS COMES...
NOW, THINGS WILL GO THE WAY YOU WANT...
I'LL DO AS YOU WISH...
I'LL LEAVE.

-Xmmmmm
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JEEZ! STAY STILL. I'LL TAKE YOU HOME... YOU SAID YOU HURT YOUR FOOT...
YOU'RE ALREADY HEAVY AS IT IS. IF YOU KEEP MOVING, YOU'LL ONLY GET HEAVIER.
WHAT?

DO YOU WANT ME TO GIVE YOU A PIGGYBACK RIDE, THEN? I REFUSE TO DO THAT, MISS--
WHAT?
I DON'T WANT TO GO TO THE BALL, BUT I'LL LET YOU DOWN WHERE THERE ARE PEOPLE... YOU CAN FIND YOUR WAY BACK HOME FROM THERE...
YUNA.
YUNA!
WHERE DID THEY GO? WHERE--?

!
UH, YOU... WEREN'T MAKING YOUR MOVE ON A WOMAN, WERE YOU?
LET GO! PUT ME DOWN! LET ME GO QUICKLY, YOU DRUNK...!
WHAT? DID YOU JUST CALL ME A DRUNK?

YOU'VE FINALLY MADE UP YOUR MIND TO PURSUE OTHER WOMEN BESIDES YUNA...
N-NO, THAT'S NOT IT--
LET GO!
OUCH!
She scratched me!
LET GO OF ME!
WH-WHAT'S WRONG?
WAAAAAH!
MISS, WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT THE...?
BUT, WHY ARE YOU HIDING...?

THAT WOMAN GOT HURT BECAUSE OF ME, AND I WAS JUST HELPING HER... SHEESH...
ANYWAY, WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR YUNA? WHAT HAPPENED?
RIENO CAME AND TOOK THE QUEEN. EVERYTHING HAPPENED SO QUICKLY, THAT...
...THERE WAS NOTHING EHREN OR I COULD DO...
WHAT THE HELL WAS EHREN UP TO?
AND YOU CALL YOURSELVES GUARDIAN KNIGHTS?!

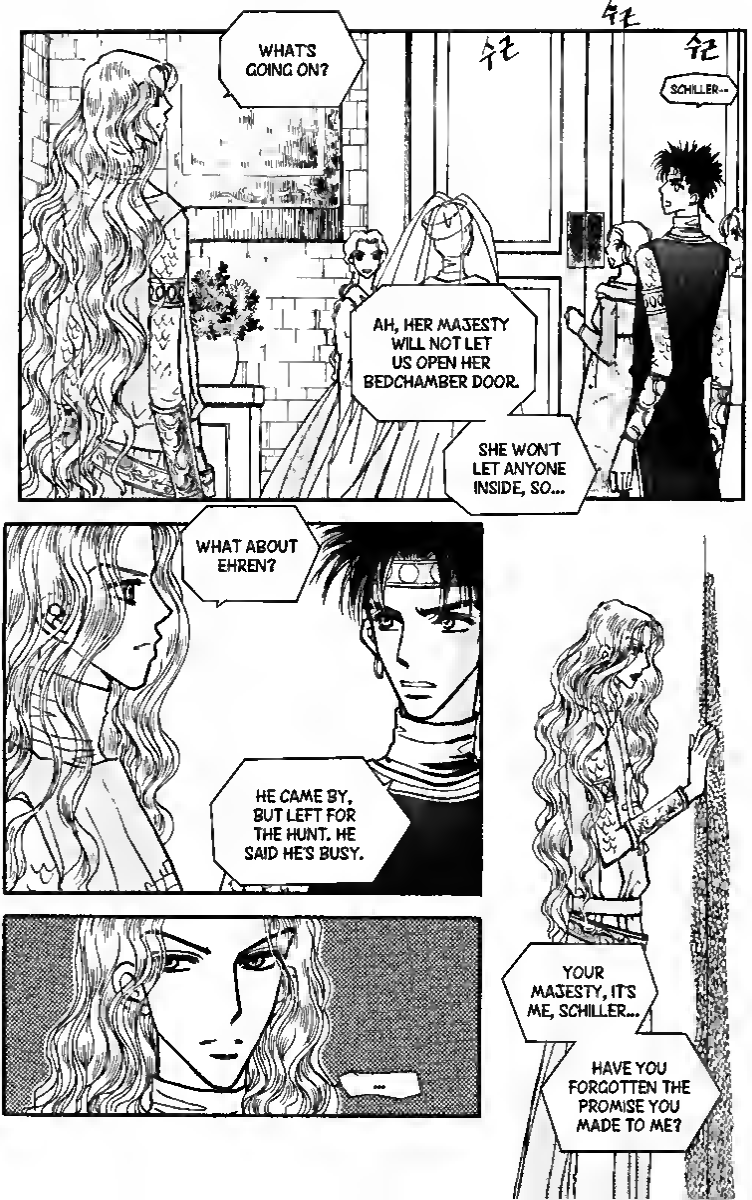
IF YUNA WERE WEARING A COSTUME AND A MASK, DO YOU THINK YOU COULD HAVE FOUND HER?
OF COURSE! ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
I CAN IDENTIFY YUNA, NO MATTER HER APPEARANCE, EVEN IN A SILLY COSTUME.
I CAN FEEL HER ONCE SHE COMES WITHIN 10 METERS OF ME— INSTINCTIVELY...
IT MUST BE GREAT BEING YOU.
SO EASY FOR A GUY WITH SUCH KEEN ANIMAL INSTINCTS.

HEY, EHREN.
YOU'LL FINALLY BE KNIGHTED TODAY!
DID YOU KNOW? YOUR POSITION IS HOTLY CONTESTED BECAUSE YOU GAVE UP DURING THE LAST HUNT, BUT DUE TO THE QUEENS SPECIAL REQUEST..
ANYWAY, MAY YOU HAVE MORE THAN THE TITLE..
I DON'T EVER WANT TO HEAR THAT YOU WERE GIVEN YOUR RANK BECAUSE YOUR UNCLE IS THE CHANCELLOR!
IS THAT WHY YOU WERE SO ADAMANTLY AGAINST ME BEING KNIGHTED?

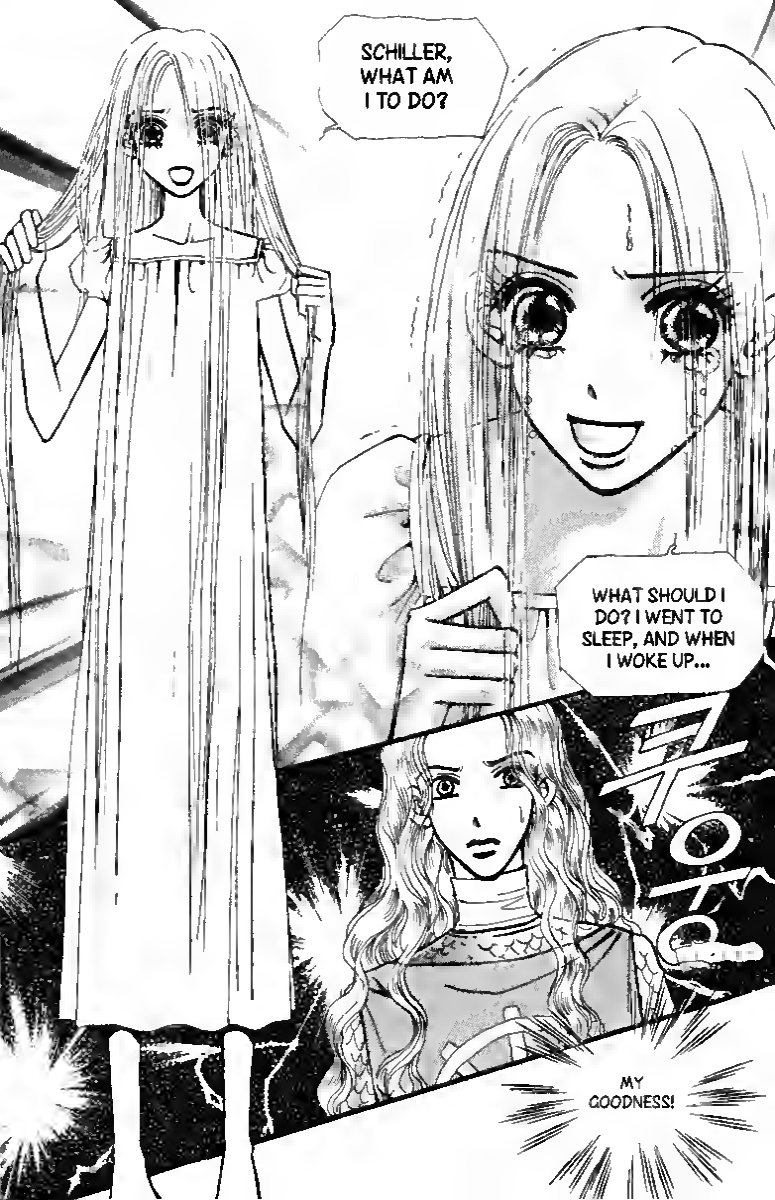
UH...
ANYWAY, KEEP TO YOUR TASKS! I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, EVEN THOUGH YOU INSIST YOU'RE CLOSE TO THE QUEEN.
YOU LOVE SOMEONE? A MAN INSTRUCTED IN THE WAYS OF THE HWERUSUTE FAMILY?
YOUR BROTHER, YOUR FATHER, YOUR GRANDFATHER WERE NEVER LIKE THIS...
HMPH! FALLING PREY TO THE EMOTIONS OF LOVE! DO YOU EVEN THINK THAT'S POSSIBLE?
YOU HAVE THE HEAD AND HEART OF A MAN WHO WAS SOLEY TAUGHT RATIONALE AND POLITICS SINCE HIS YOUTH...

YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT YOU'RE ON THE QUEEN'S SIDE IN ORDER TO CHALLENGE MY AUTHORITY?
YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL.
IF THE QUEEN FALLS IN LOVE WITH RIENO OR LOSES HER RIGHT TO THE THRONE...
...THE CHANCELLOR HAS FULL AUTHORITY TO REMOVE HER...
...UNTIL THE CURSE OF PHANTASMA IS LIFTED...
...OR UNTIL THE TRUE QUEEN APPEARS. THIS QUEEN IS SIMPLY A STAND-IN...
두버
두버
두버
YUNA.

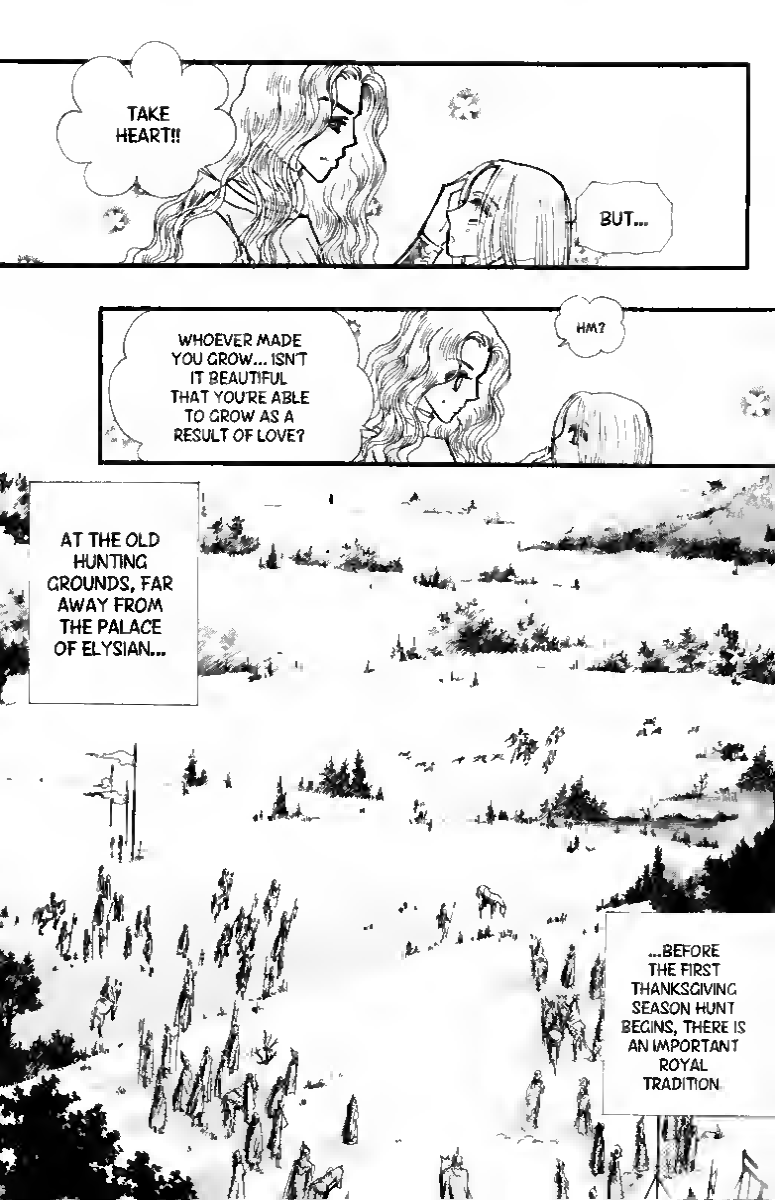
I'M SORRY, EHREN... I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE RIGHT NOW...
I WANT TO CONFIRM...
DID RIENO FIGHT ON BEHALF OF YUNA AND I IN THE FOREST OF DARKNESS BECAUSE HE THOUGHT THAT HE WAS INVINCIBLE?
...
I WANT TO CONFIRM RIENO'S FEELINGS...
I DON'T WANT TO SHOW MYSELF TO EHREN WHEN I'M IN THIS STATE...
SIR EHREN...
SHE SEEMS TO BE TIRED. LET HER REST...


WHAT'S GOING ON?
SCHILLER--
AH, HER MAJESTY WILL NOT LET US OPEN HER BEDCHAMBER DOOR.
SHE WON'T LET ANYONE INSIDE, SO...
WHAT ABOUT EHREN?
HE CAME BY, BUT LEFT FOR THE HUNT. HE SAID HE'S BUSY.
...
YOUR MAJESTY, IT'S ME, SCHILLER...
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE PROMISE YOU MADE TO ME?

조용
SILENCE...
YOUR MAJESTY?
"PROMISE"? WHAT PROMISE DID YOU MAKE WITH THE QUEEN?!
SCHILLER... ONLY SCHILLER MAY COME IN...
YOUR HIGHNESS...
부글
부글


SCHILLER, WHAT AM I TO DO?
WHAT SHOULD I DO? I WENT TO SLEEP, AND WHEN I WOKE UP...
ZOM
MY GOODNESS!

OH WOW! IT'S LONG ENOUGH FOR YOU TO BRAID...
YOU ARE AN AMAZING QUEEN. YOUR POWER TO GROW EXCEEDS THAT OF EVERYONE ELSE.
WON'T PEOPLE THINK IT'S STRANGE?
S-STRANGE?
IF YOU PREPARE YOURSELF...GET YOUR BEAUTIFUL HAIR READY...
...EVERYONE WILL BE TAKEN BY YOUR BEAUTY...
...AND THEY WILL STARE AT YOU IN WONDER.


TAKE HEART!!
BUT...
HM?
WHOEVER MADE YOU GROW... ISN'T IT BEAUTIFUL THAT YOU'RE ABLE TO GROW AS A RESULT OF LOVE?
AT THE OLD HUNTING GROUNDS, FAR AWAY FROM THE PALACE OF ELYSIAN...
...BEFORE THE FIRST THANKSGIVING SEASON HUNT BEGINS, THERE IS AN IMPORTANT ROYAL TRADITION

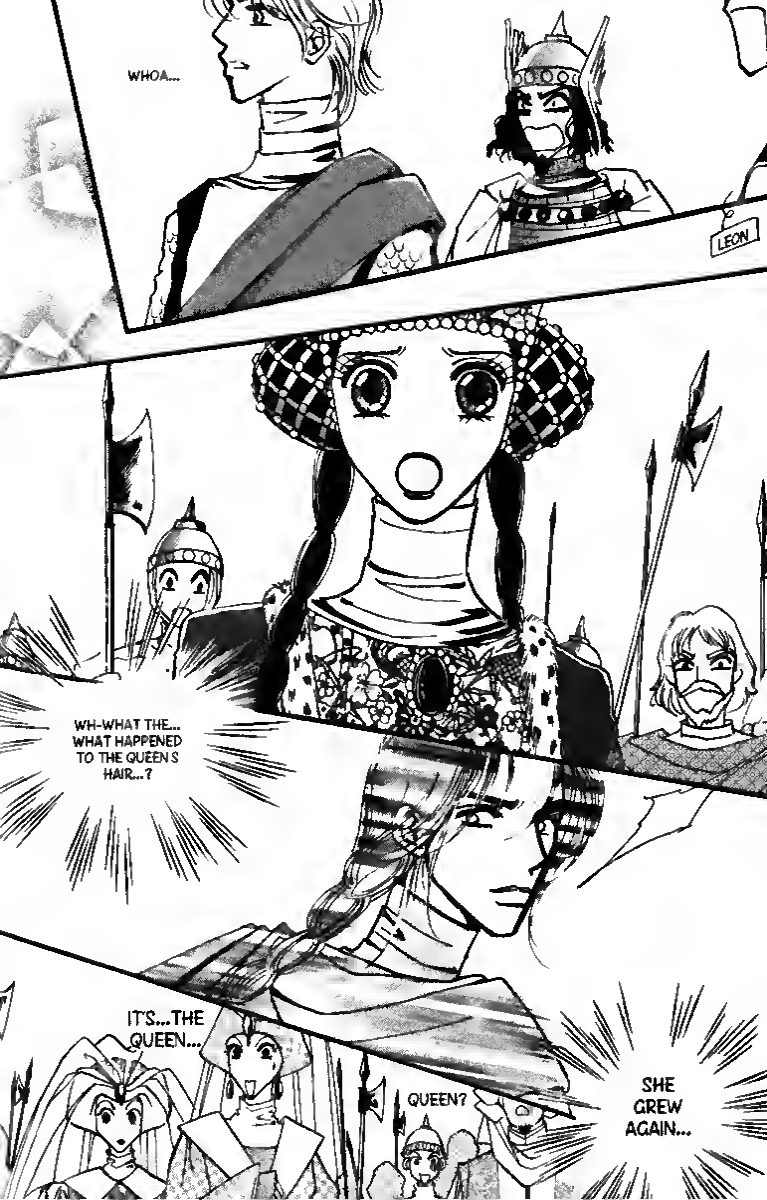
YOU'LL NEVER RETURN TO THE PALACE ONCE THIS HUNT ENDS?
OUR CONTRACT WAS UNTIL THE FIRST THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL...
OH, PRINCESS LIBERA LOOKS ESPECIALLY BEAUTIFUL TODAY.
ONCE YOU LEAVE, I'LL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET RID OF THE QUEEN.
AS YOU LIKE. THERE ARE THREE GUARDIAN KNIGHTS... IT WON'T BE AN EASY TASK...

ON TOP OF THAT, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE I'M WELCOME ANYMORE.
DO YOU KNOW WHY?
BECAUSE THERE'S A RUMOR THAT THE QUEEN GREW BECAUSE OF YOU...
THAT'S WHY THERE ARE A LOT OF CITIZENS AND ROYAL FAMILY MEMBERS AGAINST THE QUEEN RIGHT NOW.
NO MATTER WHAT THE TRUTH IS, BAD RUMORS TEND TO SPREAD FASTER...

A LOT OF INSULTS ARE BEING FLUNG AT THE QUEEN RIGHT NOW.
SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO ARRIVE ON HORSEBACK LIKE SHE DID LAST TIME...
YOU HARDLY SEEM TO BE IN THE POSITION TO WORRY ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE...
EVERYONE ELSE IS GROWING EXCEPT YOU, PRINCESS...

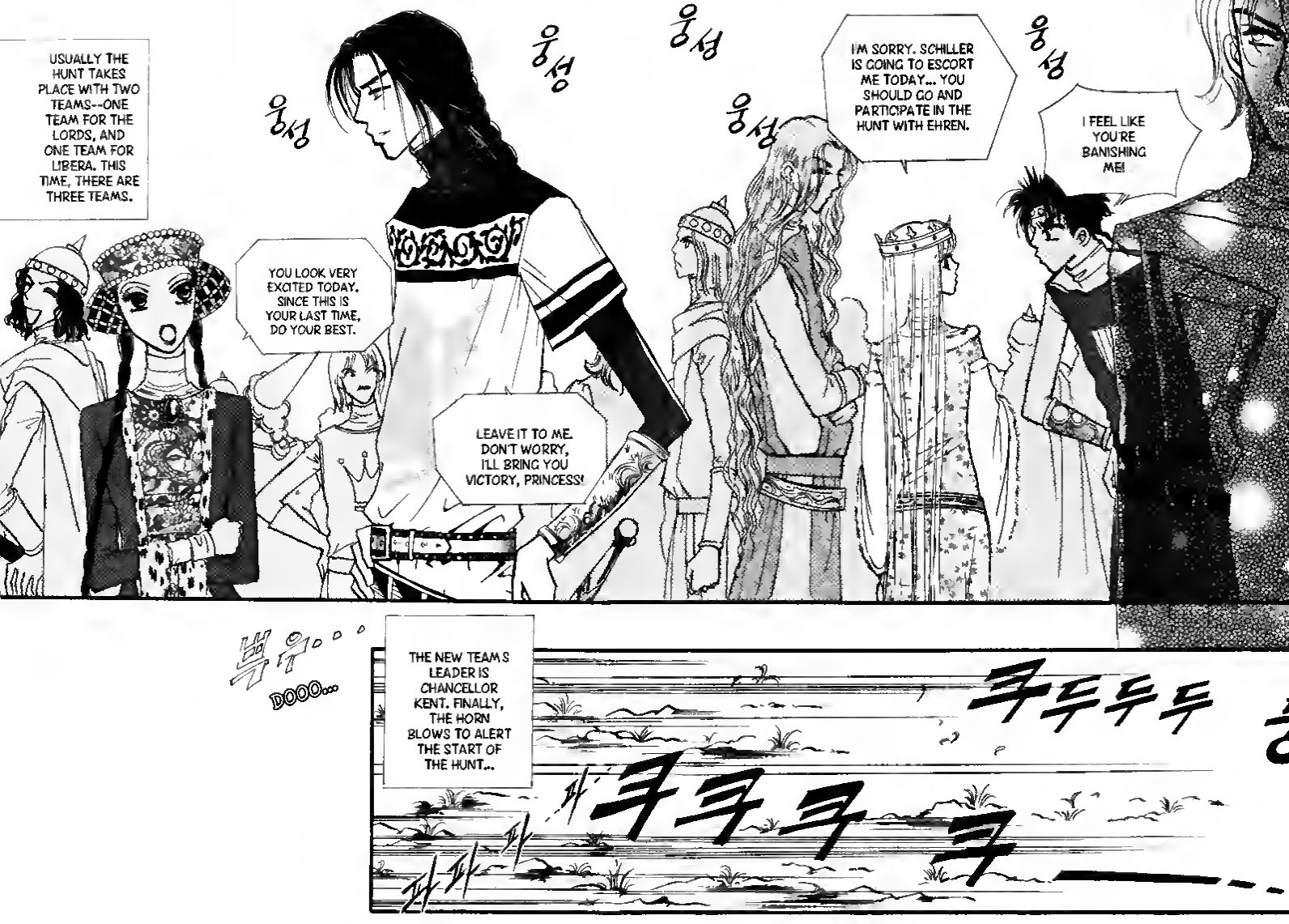
WHAT?
JEEK!! I CAN'T BELIEVE HE HIT MY WEAK SPOT...
PRINCESS LIBERA!
OH MY. CONGRATULATIONS, EHREN, ON BEING KNIGHTED.
CHANCELLOR KENT, WILL YOU HUNT TODAY?
FOXES ARE MY SPECIALTY.
다가
다가

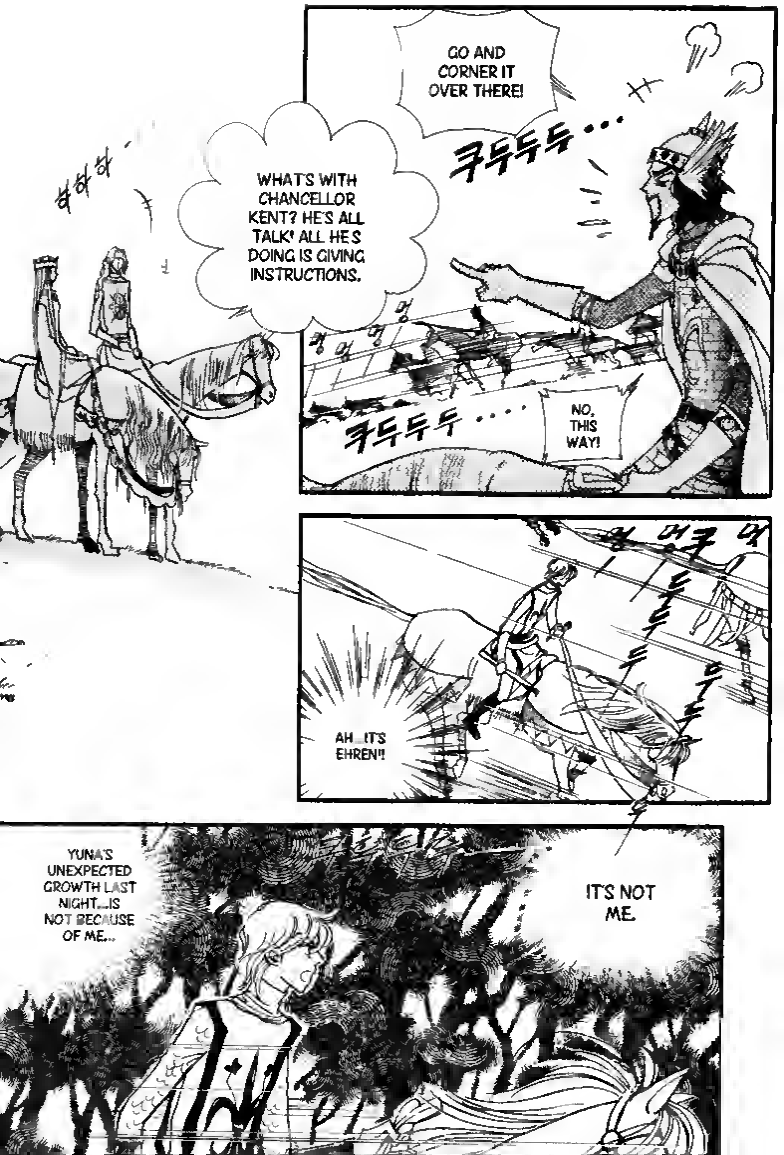
HMPH.
THIS TRADITION HAS LOST ITS LUSTER!
THEY'RE EVEN KNIGHTING A SILLY LITTLE COUNTRY BOY, NOW...
WHAT THE-- GRRR! SHE THINKS SHE CAN SAY STUFF LIKE THAT...
ANNOUNCING HER MAJESTY--
웅성
웅성
웅성


WHOA...
LEON
WH-WHAT THE... WHAT HAPPENED TO THE QUEEN'S HAIR...?
IT'S...THE QUEEN...
QUEEN?
SHE GREW AGAIN...

BEFORE THE THANKSGIVING HUNT, THERE IS A KNIGHTING CEREMONY.
A TITLE AND A HANDSOME REWARD ARE GIVEN TO THE BRAVE PARTICIPANTS OF THE HUNT WITHIN THE FOREST OF DARKNESS.
I, EHREN HWERUSUTE, A KNIGHT OF PHANTASMA...
...FROM THIS MOMENT ON...
...DEVOTE MYSELF IN LOYAL SERVICE TO ETERNAL SPRING AND HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN...
IT'S YOUR TURN NEXT, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE GOING TO BECOME AN OFFICIAL KNIGHT.

CONGRATULATIONS, EHREN..
YOU'VE GROWN AGAIN...
I WILL OFFICIATE THE CEREMONY, YOUR HIGHNESS. LEAVE EHREN TO ME.
BRINGING A GIRL LIKE THAT TO BE QUEEN...
I ABHOR YOU SO MUCH RIGHT NOW, RIENO.
MY LOYAL SERVICES TO THE QUEEN...


USUALLY THE HUNT TAKES PLACE WITH TWO TEAMS--ONE TEAM FOR THE LORDS, AND ONE TEAM FOR LIBERA. THIS TIME, THERE ARE THREE TEAMS.
YOU LOOK VERY EXCITED TODAY. SINCE THIS IS YOUR LAST TIME, DO YOUR BEST.
LEAVE IT TO ME. DON'T WORRY, I'LL BRING YOU VICTORY, PRINCESS!
웅성
웅성
웅성
웅성
I'M SORRY. SCHILLER IS GOING TO ESCORT ME TODAY... YOU SHOULD GO AND PARTICIPATE IN THE HUNT WITH EHREN.
I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE BANISHING ME!
뿌우우우
DOOO...
THE NEW TEAMS LEADER IS CHANCELLOR KENT. FINALLY, THE HORN BLOWS TO ALERT THE START OF THE HUNT...
쿠두두두
쿠크크크


GO AND CORNER IT OVER THERE!
쿠두두두...
WHAT'S WITH CHANCELLOR KENT? HE'S ALL TALK! ALL HE'S DOING IS GIVING INSTRUCTIONS.
NO, THIS WAY!
AH...IT'S EHREN!!
YUNA'S UNEXPECTED GROWTH LAST NIGHT...IS NOT BECAUSE OF ME...
IT'S NOT ME.

EVEN A FOOL WOULD KNOW THAT...
IT'S HIM!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHY ARE YOU STANDING IN MY WAY? DO YOU WANT TO COMPETE WITH ME, SIR EHREN?

GET OUT OF MY WAY. STOP BOTHERING ME...
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK.
쿠두두두...
OOH, IT'S A BIG ONE!!
I'M GOING TO EAT WARTHOG TONIGHT WITH YUNI!! ♡

ISN'T YUNA YOUR TYPE?
I mean your preference.
...?
THE FACT THAT SPRING HAS COME MEANS THAT THE QUEEN LOVED YOU...
EVEN IF IT'S NOT SPRING NOW, IT MEANS SHE LOVED YOU AT ONE POINT IN HER PAST!
RIENO, YOU...YOU ARE NOT THE KIND OF MAN...
...WHO CAN STAY IN THE PAST FOR THE QUEEN...

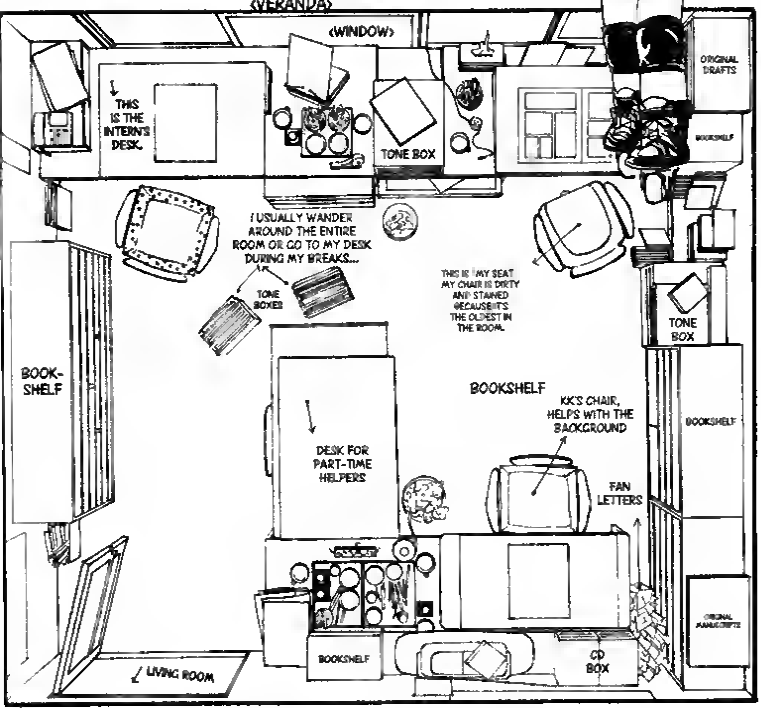
BUT FOR SOME REASON, IT LOOKS TO ME AS IF YOU'RE AVOIDING HER.
WHY IS THAT? YOU DIDN'T CARE WHAT HAPPENED TO PHANTASMA DURING THE REIGN OF THE OTHER QUEENS.
DO YOU KNOW THE REASON WHY YUNA IS DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER QUEENS?
IF YOU DON'T KNOW THAT, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO PROTECT HER FROM ME...
I GUARANTEE IT. THIS SPRING WILL BE THE LONGEST PHANTASMA HAS EVER SEEN.
Ha ha ha

To Be Continued in Volume 10

# Congratulations on your 9th book!!

MAJOR EVENT

IN COMMEMORATION OF THIS OCCASION, WE WELCOME YOU TO THE PIGPEN STUDIO.




Due to limited page space..we cannot show you the other rooms. The diagram above shows the state of the room during the start of the deadline season (Ha ha. ) To be honest when there's an upcoming deadline there's trash everywhere- tissues papers, junk eraser shavings...you can't even distinguish the trash from the people in the room (Ha ha hal!) I usually only use this room to work. Whenever I come here, I feel tense and nervous. At the same time it is my favorite place to be. It's warm and comfortable like a mother's embrace. (The above diagram is the product of KK who is my background artist )

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